Daily Report

Latin America

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Cuba

Minister on Foreign Companies Searching for Oil in Country

PA1304150993 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Report by Marianela Samper]

[Text] The Cuban Basic Industry Ministry, which has over 100,000 employees, conducts its work through business deals with oil, power, nickel, geologic, mining, chemical, rubber, glass, and paper companies. All those sectors have research and project centers as well as highly specialized maintenance and construction personnel. A wealth of assets as well as hard-working personnel enable the most varied forms of associations to deal with the current situation, which in some cases may be caused by the lack of raw material, technology, or capital for renewal or marketing.

Characterized by seriousness in negotiations and endorsed by its potential, Cuba's Basic Industry Ministry has already taken considerable steps with foreign firms. Basic Industry Minister Marcos Portal comments on efforts in the oil sector:

[Begin Portal recording] The Russians have been unable to restore the business of exploring for and exporting oil. I am not referring to the business of supplying oil in exchange for sugar but of the aspect we handle; in other words, oil exploration and so forth.

Supplies were cut. What alternatives were left for our country? Was it possible, considering its financial limitations, to invest in risky oil explorations? It was not possible. Thus we concluded that we had to share the search for and production of oil with foreign firms. To that end two business deals are currently in progress. One deal involves six foreign oil firms that have undertaken the risky venture of searching for oil. One of those companies is the (?Total) company, one of the world's leading oil companies. There are two French companies, two Canadian companies, and one Swedish company, all of which are already exploring for oil in our country. If they discover oil their investments will be repaid and they will recover part of that oil over a number of years. Business deals like these are made all over the world.

Another type of business we are developing pertains to existing Cuban oil deposits that were developed with Soviet technology, with which you are acquainted, that was not updated for many years. We have oil wells that used to produce 20 to 25 tons daily; by implementing technology from Canada and certain other countries, those same oil wells have multiplied their production two, three, or four times. Thus our existing oil deposits will increase their production by over 1 million to 1.3 million tons this year. At existing government-owned deposits, we expect to produce 1.5 or 1.6 tons by next year, stabilizing after 1995 at 2 to 2.5 million tons. We do not yet have results from other oil deals that are being developed. [end recording]

The island also has the capability to refine oil and produce grease and lubricants. On both the northern and southern coasts there are storage facilities, fuel mixing plants, and terminals to facilitate transportation to any destination. The possibilities for negotiating deals are manifold, one example being the paper industry. We import paper from Jamaica that is transformed in Cuba into liner and cardboard to manufacture boxes.

The experience acquired in the construction of power lines and substations is another real possibility for basic industry, which could be used by any other nation that needs to develop an electrification program.

[Begin Portal recording] Cuba has the mechanical infrastructure in the areas of automation and power to repair and rebuild thermoelectric plants, oil refineries, and other industries. We can repair high capacity transformers. We have done high quality repairs. We send our specialists and technicians (?all over the country) with their tools. We have brought equipment here, repaired it, and sent it back. As you can see, ideas and possibilities in Cuba are endless. [end recording]

Cubans Meet With Kim Il-song, Angolan Prime Minister

FL1304142193 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1155 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] President Kim Il-song of the DPRK today received a Cuban delegation headed by Cuban Culture Minister Armando Hart. It was learned today in the Korean capital that the DPRK will send a shipment of 100 tons of zinc sheets to Cuba on 20 April. The sheets are to be used to repair the damages caused by the storm that hit Cuba on 13 and 14 March.

Also, Angolan Prime Minister Marcolino Moco today received a delegation headed by Rodolfo Puentes Ferro, an official of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, with whom he discussed the situation in the two countries.

Visiting Colombian Delegation Meets With Castro

FL1304164193 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1402 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] A press release carried in today's edition of the newspaper GRANMA says: Commander in Chief Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Councils of State and of Ministers, on the afternoon of 10 April received a delegation of Colombian senators headed by Colombian Senate President Tito Edmundo Rueda, who is also president of the Colombian Congress. Several topics of interest to both our nations were discussed during this meeting, which took place in a cordial and friendly atmosphere. Mr. Rueda was accompanied by Senators (Gustavo Galbis Hernandez), (Tiberio Villareal Ramos),

(Rodrigo Bula Hoyos), (Daniel Villegas Diaz), and businessmen (Mario Suarez) and (Jaime Rueda). Present for the Cuban side was Comrade Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada, president of the National Assembly of the People's Government.

Cape Verde President Congratulates Castro

FL1304134593 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 0202 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Cape Verde Islands President Antonio Mascarenhas Monteiro has sent Commander in Chief Fidel Castro a message of congratulations for having been reelected president of the Council of State. In his letter, President Mascarenhas expresses the most sincere congratulations to Fidel on his own behalf and on behalf of his people. President Mascarenhas' message also says: I take this opportunity to express to Your Excellency our best wishes for good health, and our congratulations and best wishes for the well-being of our friends, the people of Cuba.

Also in this document, Mascarenhas Monteiro reiterates his countrymen's desire to continue strengthening the ties of friendship and cooperation that have long existed between this African country and Cuba. Autoprocessing Division

Barbados

Prime Minister Receives 'Slight' Injuries in Accident

FL1304183193 Bridgetown CANA in English 1742 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 13, CANA—Barbados Prime Minister Erskine Sandiford received slight injuries in an accident involving his car early Tuesday morning, state radio reported.

900 am, operated by the state-run Caribbean Broadcasting Corporation, quoted police as saying Sandiford suffered an injury to right knee and complained of a bump on the head.

The accident occurred around 6.30 a.m. in Pine Gardens, a residential district about two miles outside Bridgetown.

Dominican Republic

International Community Effort on Haiti Lauded

FL1304183393 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] The Dominican Government has offered full support for the steps being taken by the United Nations and the OAS to reestablish democracy in Haiti, and has urged the Haitian sectors involved in the conflict situation to support the international initiative.

In a communique authorized by President Joaquin Balaguer, the Foreign Ministry says it considers this a timely occasion once again to express its support for, and respect of, the plan that (?the international community is) putting into practice with a view to solving the crisis once and for all and facilitating Haiti's return to democracy and civilized coexistence.

The Foreign Ministry considers timely the effort being made by the international community with the dual purpose of imposing respect for human rights in Haitian territory and putting an end to the suffering to which Haiti's society has been subjected.

Sale of Products to Haiti Authorized

FL1304174693 Santo Domingo Radio-Television Dominicana Radio Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] The Dominican Government has authorized the sale of foodstuffs, fuels, agricultural-livestock materials, raw materials for companies, and medicines to neighboring Haiti. Deputy Foreign Minister Fabio Herrera Cabral said this measure is in accordance with OAS policy. Herrera added that the Dominican Government—especially President of the Republic Dr. Joaquin Balaguer—is following very closely the evolution of what is happening inside and outside Haiti.

Appearing on a television program, Herrera Cabral said this decision was also reached with a view to saving lives among the population of Haiti.

Fabio Herrera Cabral said: We are authorizing the passage of consumer goods—and even work materials—(?that are of) a humanitarian nature, and that is in accordance with the resolutions of the OAS.

Haiti

Bazin Addresses Nation on Crisis

FL1404043093 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in Creole 0005 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Speech by Prime Minister Marc Louis Bazin from the National Palace in Port-au-Prince—live; italicized passages in French]

[Text] Haitian men, Haitian women, dear compatriots, dear friends: For 18 months and 13 days the country has been experiencing a crisis that has forced it to live without one of its legs. When the crisis began, many people had different stands. There were people who said: My dear, the only way we can get out of this situation is to stall for time, because one day everything will be back to normal. Anyway, we are free and independent. We do what we want. What is done is done and there is nothing we can do about it [animal nan mal li nan mal net]. Those who had these views are people who were not aware that there is an economic problem. They did not realize there is a number of unfortunate people who are

trying to leave the country aboard small boats and that, consequently, if one adopts the stand consisting of stalling for time, this means one accepts destroying the country.

A second group of people said the crisis should be resolved through violence; that is, either through civil war or foreign occupation. For our part, we found those two solutions unacceptable. We rejected the first solution, consisting of civil war, because it (?would) not resolve anything. Haitians are killing one another; division is worsening among Haitians. When you think you are resolving the crisis, you are worsening it instead. Neither is the solution demanding foreign occupation acceptable to us because it is prejudicial to national dignity and national sovereignty.

This time it is serious. I would like everyone, *all those who—by electoral, malevolent, and demagogic calculations—used the sacred notion of national dignity as an element of partisan policy in the past to think today about the seriousness of the situation.*

There is a third group of people—those who were in the center, political parties, the center, the center right, the center left—who said there is only one way to get out of this situation. It is through negotiations that have put all Haitians together and that have created conditions not only to resolve this crisis, but also to prevent another crisis from hitting us in the future. Obviously, when someone is at the center of the political scene, people are shouting at him from the right and the left. The rightists tell you: It is not a question of negotiating; we have forgotten about the Aristide question. It is a page to tear up; we should then apply Article 149 and hold elections.

There was another group of people—the leftists—who said: My dear, you may negotiate, but as far as we are concerned, we will not share power with anyone. That is, we actually want negotiations, but we will not pay any price for them. Obviously, both the rightists and the leftists—as usual—have joined to demand the resignation of the government, and the government says that that is out of the question and that it will not resign [li pap fe yon pa kita, li pap fe yon pa nago] because what it is doing is what needs to be done and there is no other solution than negotiations.

Therefore, we stood still. Every time there was a call for negotiations—whether it was to send the minister of foreign affairs to Washington to meet with Baena Soares and Father Adrien, or to send him to Jamaica to meet with Mr. Manley, or to discuss the civilian mission, the terms of reference, the special envoy—we answered it. As such, little by little we succeeded in creating an atmosphere of progress and tolerance.

Thanks to our perseverance, we have helped to reduce violence. On the domestic and international level, we have reached a point where the negotiations are entering the most serious phase. As such, the UN/OAS special envoy arrived today in Port-au-Prince. During the entire week, a sector of the foreign press told us he would arrive with a plan. If one reads the foreign press well, one has the impression that everything is already set up. Nothing more is to be done. The Army General Staff will disappear. Some forces will land in the country. They say that some will be to keep the peace. Some say it is to ensure Father Aristide's immediate safety. Father Aristide will come within 60 days. Words are disseminated in the streets. As far as we are concerned—to tell the truth—we have not yet seen any text, we have not read a document that says what the negotiations must be and what they are about.

When we read this news, we say: This news is surprising. If it did not come from newspapers known to be serious, we would say that this news is manipulation; that it is a group of people who are trying to spread division—spread trouble and confusion in the Haitian's minds so that they reach what I would call a psychological, international coup d'etat. With all of that, let me tell you, let us remain calm. Do not lose your sangfroid. Let us sit down and wait. We must only do one thing: Close the ranks so we will speak with one voice. There is no reason for people to start getting excited.

Well! The special envoy is coming. Let him come. If he comes with threats to destroy the country and to put us under trusteeship and impose his solution, all I can tell him is that we will not cooperate. Now if he comes to help us, if it really is the common good of the Haitian people that everyone has in mind, if they help us find a solution where there is no winner, there is no loser, and it is a lasting solution, then he is very welcome. He is welcome and we will work with him in the most constructive and open spirit. If he comes that way, it means his success is everyone else's success.

Having said so, whatever the objectives of the UN/OAS special envoy are, whether they are friendly objectives or they are ill-intentioned, there is at least one thing we Haitians must do: We must have our own plan.

This plan exists. This plan is the result of a series of conversations we have had with several protagonists in the crisis and several people who are important in the solution of the crisis. If we are evoking the plan, it is for three reasons. First, it is the purpose of this government. The consensus and public safety government has received this mandate. It is then its duty to have a plan. Second, experiences show that every time a solution is not in accordance with the national reality, it does not work. Third, we think the plan provides for sufficient elements of convergence. It is sufficiently balanced to serve as a basis for a lasting solution. Naturally, today it is a plan.

We are going to negotiate with it. It is out of the question that we evoke publicly its details. However, we think that before we start seriously negotiating, we must talk with the people so that they know the outline of where they are going.

The first thing is that we do not think there can be any satisfying and lasting agreement without a paper—a

written document that everyone can read, that everyone can discuss, and that possibly, if everyone agrees, everyone can sign.

Diplomacy, as a calculated indiscretion to the press, has its limit. The time has come to sit down and talk seriously.

Second, the agreement we are talking about is an agreement that I will call face to face; no lies [kat ge kontre, menti kaba]. We would like it to obtain a solution to the current crisis and also that it serves as the basis *to the construction of national unity through the forming and the strengthening of democratic institutions, suitable to our country, the end of violence, and the end of the polarizing speech.*

Among the steps that I would like to see in this agreement, and that would naturally be the subject of negotiation and reciprocal concessions, I think we should find the recognition of the legitimacy of Reverend Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide as the president constitutionally elected of the Republic; *the observation by the Parliament, in compliance with Article 148 of the Constitution, that the recognized president is temporarily hampered from executing his duties; also the commitment by the recognized president to declare a general amnesty without any ambiguity; and to ask for the lifting of economic sanctions and the embargo that is terribly affecting the situation of the Haitian people.*

Naturally, the recognized president would chose a new prime minister. The choice of this prime minister should be based on a consensus between the two main blocs represented in parliament. *As such, the essential role of this prime minister would be to serve as a point of balance among opposing interests. Such a role implies that the entitled has the trust of the Haitian Army and Father Aristide, but also the business sector, the civilian society, the most representative associations, and finally all the spiritual and religious families.*

The reason we think that way is because *this crisis is essentially political and the solution can only be political. The prime minister, once ratified by the chambers—and obviously it will not be difficult, as long as the basic agreement helped draw a consensus on the person—this prime minister will form a government of large national unity whose objectives will be as follows. First, the government would initiate the process for the professionalization of the Haitian Armed Forces [FADH], the creation of a specialized police force, the modernization of the judicial system, the reinforcement of parliament, and the reform of public administration. This government of large national unity would also establish a plan for revitalizing the economy that would aim at repairing the damages caused by this unspeakable embargo, a plan that will aim at creating jobs and at radically redressing the trends of a negative growth rate for the past 10 years. This government would solicit the financial, technical, and economic assistance of the international community to achieve the institutional reforms in a true [word indistinct]. The government would also define the principles and the modes of functioning of a national conference that would be aimed at establishing a true national political dialogue on the basis of a 10-year minimum program on both the economic and sociopolitical level. Such a national conference should also allow us to define the modes, the rules of the game, and a code of ethics based on tolerance and compromise that are the essential data for the good functioning; (?that is), the harmonious functioning of the democratic process. Finally, the government would create a joint committee for the assessment of the progress of the democratic process.*

This committee should include representatives from the UN/OAS special envoy, the government, the private sector, the civil society, and the spiritual and religious families. The role of this committee is to follow up the progress being made in all the issues that I mentioned; that is, the professionalization of the Army, the creation of a specialized police force, progress in the modernization of the judicial system, reforms in parliament, reinforcement of parliament, and reinforcement of the administration. After it finishes all those assessments, the committee should appear before the national conference to present a report and recommendations regarding the timetable, the dates, and conditions that Father Aristide would possibly have to meet so he can return to the country.

Do not forget that everything I just told you is (?something) negotiable. When one is conducting negotiations, one takes a (?basis); there is a (?possibility) that one does not leave the negotiations the way one started them up. So we must wait for the process to completely reach an end before we can know what the final results will be. But there is one point on which I would like to be officially and solemnly clear with the Haitian people today: The fact that the consensus and public safety government has presented a plan does not at all mean the consensus and public safety government would like to join in the materialization of the plan. On the contrary, we would like for the consensus and public safety government... [pauses] It should (?apparently) look like a party to the solution of the problem, but not a party to the problem itself. From the moment that we see that the negotiations really begin, that we see that the negotiations are about to succeed, *anyway—at the latest—after the choice of the new prime minister, the consensus and public safety government will consider that its mission has reached an end and will tender its resignation to the president of the parliament and to the commander in chief of the FADH.*

Haitian men and women, compatriots of mine, friends of mine, in every man's life—in every man's life—there is a moment when you decide to put the country's interests before your own interests. A radical choice is to be made. As for me, I have made my choice. The time of the choice, the time of the truth has rung as well for political Haitian men. It is the time when everyone must make the sacrifice either of one's pride, or of one's ambitions, or even of one's taste for money. There is only one thing for which no sacrifice can be made. It is the national honor and the supreme well-being of the

homeland. Otherwise, we must prepare to negotiate, especially if it is emotions, rivalries, or resentments that we are negotiating.

Well, when you think—when you really think—when you start thinking and see what choices are to be made without seeing difficult choices, *what is it about?[sentence as heard]*

Eventually, today, the choice is not a choice between democracy on the one hand and national independence on the other. Of course! Of course we all observe that 200 years of independence have not given us democracy. Then we are forced to ask the question: Will democracy help us safeguard independence? Perhaps. But for that, we need to work a lot.

On the other hand, there is something else that is certain. What is certain is that the absence of democracy threatens national independence. *From then on, when one chooses democracy, one cannot lose.* Likewise, I think we must avoid all the uncompromising people, all those who want vengeance, all those who are stubborn and who would like to have it all and at all cost. I am asking them to avoid creating types of situations that would make someone say tomorrow that it is because we have refused democracy that we have lost independence. *May the God of the believers help us and support us!*Thank you my fellow citizens. See you very soon.

Bissainthe Warns Government Against Aristide Legitimacy

FL1304211493 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Dean Gerard Bissainthe warns Marc Bazin's government against recognizing the legitimacy of ousted President Aristide. Referring to rumors being spread in Port-au-Prince, the dean of the university said that the executive did not process such a role which is incumbent to the Parliament. Gerard Bissainthe is calling on the university students to close ranks.

[Begin Bissainthe recording] The dean of the University of Haiti has probably heard, as everyone else has, certain rumors related to the probable intentions of the executive to come to a decision on governmental legitimacy. Aware that one of its mission is to defend on a moral plane the great principles that must lead our national life and considering that those rumors are most likely an intoxicated maneuver by the enemies of the Haitian nation, the dean of the University of Haiti, wants to remind, in order to appease the spirits, that the executive has no quality or ability to come to a decision regarding the validity or the legitimacy of a government, being itself a government which cannot be both judge and jury. Such a power is the privilege of the judiciary or in certain cases the legislative bodies.

As a consequence, any decision that could be made in that sense by the executive power, would only be a pure stylistic composition and would be as such null and void. This decision should not and could not then have any effect on our national life.

The dean of the University of Haiti invites the Haitian university community and the entire country to close around the national flag in order to prevent any attack against the sovereignty and the pride of Haiti that the forefathers have passed on to us. Port-au-Prince, 15 April 1993 [date as heard], Gerard Bissainthe, dean of the State University of Haiti. [end recording]

Deputies on Amnesty, Selection of Prime Minister

FL1304171693 Port-au-Prince Radio Tropic FM in Creole 1200 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Excerpts] Dante Caputo, the UN and OAS international mediator, will enter Port-au-Prince with an international plan for Haiti. According to this plan, Villa d'Accueil [Agreement] Prime Minister Marc Bazin and Army chief Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras will hand power over to President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Meanwhile, there is opposition to the choice of a new prime minister and to amnesty for those who staged the 30 September 1991 coup. Some parliamentarians and President Aristide gave their opinions on the amnesty issue. Jeansoi [Joseph filed the following report].

[Begin recording] [Joseph] Several parliamentarians, who do not share a political stance, gave their opinions on the issues of amnesty for the coupists and the choice of a prime minister. Dr Antoine Joseph [member of the Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti and of the Alliance for Parliamentary Cohesion], one of the [two opposing] presidents of the Chamber of Deputies, says that the amnesty is necessary but there are some problems.

[Deputy Joseph] If you consider amnesty on a legal plane, on a juridical plane, on a constitutional plane, I personally have a problem because you cannot speak of an amnesty if there is no sentence. You must first bring before the court the people supposedly accused of having committed an action, a crime. After their indictment, they would appear before a court and be sentenced. If it is a political offense, the president—according to the Constitution—will...[changes thought] has the right to grant amnesty. [passage omitted]

As we are experiencing a political crisis, if they [not further identified] want to give it a much wider center, there is no problem for me. All I want is a solution acceptable to all parties and to which the Army is a party; an amnesty is one of the conditions to the Army's being a party to the solution.

[Reporter Joseph] Deputy Antoine Joseph says that all sectors should participate in the solution to the crisis and the prime minister to be chosen should appear before the parliament [for approval] in accordance with the Constitution of the Republic.

For his part, Deputy Serge Jean-Louis says that amnesty is necessary for a solution to the crisis. The deputy, however, points out that no one should confuse political amnesty with juridical amnesty. [passage omitted]

Many U.S. newspapers, such as THE MIAMI HERALD and THE NEW YORK TIMES, speak of the return of President Aristide and of amnesty for the authors of the coup. According to a document that reached us, President Aristide might return to Haiti 60 days, that is, two months after ratification of the latest agreement to be signed. According to the same document, Gen. Cedras and some other high ranking officers will have a maximum of 30 days to leave their Army ranks after this agreement is signed. [passage omitted]

According to the document we received, the new government that will be established will be recognized by President Aristide even before he returns. According to this document, current discussions point out that selection as prime minister may fall on former Economy and Finance Minister Leslie Delatour; Mayor Evans Paul; Robert Malval, the owner of Le Natal Printing House; and Gerard Latortue, former foreign affairs minister under the Leslie Francois Manigat government.

The document also says that 150 police observers will come to help with the democratic transition. [end recording]

Gerard Latortue, one of the names being prominently mentioned in Port-au-Prince as the next Haitian prime minister within the scope of the agreement to untangle the crisis, said that he is ready to serve his country whenever he is called.

UN/OAS Mission Effects Release of Radio Correspondent

FL1304205093 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Report by correspondent Lenoard Exnatus in Saint-Marc—recorded in Creole]

[Excerpts] Tropic FM correspondent Ernst Ocean, who was arrested by the military on 10 April, was released on 12 April. The UN/OAS international civilian mission in charge of overseeing the respect of human rights intervened in his favor.

[Exantus] On 12 April, the judicial authorities in Saint-Marc released Tropic FM correspondent Ernst Ocean. He was arrested on 10 April when the military authorities accused him of distributing leaflets in favor of the return of Father Jean-Bertrand Aristide. His release came following a great mobilization by members of the press in Lower Artibonite; young people fighting for change; a human rights advocate, lawyer Rene Silvestre; and the members of the UN/OAS civilian mission.

It was approximately 1130 on 12 April, when the military transferred the journalist to the court where Justice of the Peace Gerard Jean-Baptiste, after hearing the case, transferred him to the public prosecutor. With the UN/OAS mission members and the press present, the government commissioner in Saint-Marc, (Syril) Joseph, after several questions, sent the prisoner back (?into custody). This decision caused considerable anger from the mission members who went back to the military barracks to ask for an explanation. Following immense pressure, Ernst Ocean and Harry (Landeau) finally were released. [passage omitted].

We point out that only two out of the four prisoners went to court because the departmental delegate, Roland Dupiton, helped release Roland Desir and (Wil?) Alex. According to sources, the journalist had been accused of distributing leaflets. [passage omitted]

Authorities Release 75 'Illegally Detained' Prisoners

FL1304164493 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1045 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Haitian authorities have released about 100 prisoners incarcerated in the National Penitentiary. The imprisonment of those prisoners was considered illegal by the Justice minister. Rothschild Francois, Junior has more details:

[Begin recording] Seventy-five prisoners were released on 8 April at the National Penitentiary by judicial authorities. The government commissioner ordering the release indicated that those prisoners were detained illegally. The judicial authorities are now working on the case of some military locked up for several months in the prison and whose files have been delayed. Those decisions by judicial authorities follow less than a week after a demonstration at the National Penitentiary where prisoners protested poor living conditions. The international civilian mission expressed in a communique its concerns to the authorities about the Haitian prison system. The mission, while deploring the incidents at the National Penitentiary, hopes that the prisoners' rights to human dignity will be respected. The civilian mission also reaffirms its intention to promote human rights in compliance with the Constitution and Haitian law. [end recording]

*** Succession Aspect of Press Measures Noted**

93CA0088A Mexico City EL FINANCIERO in Spanish 22 Feb 93 p 68

[Commentary by Raymundo Riva Palacio, former director of the government news agency NOTIMEX: "The Press and (?) Democracy"]

[Text] In 1974, a group of U.S. academics met in Mexico with the editors of various national newspapers, who complained that demanding bribes, placing reporters on the government payroll, and pressuring the private sector to pull advertising from the critical press had practically become institutionalized as a means of controlling the dissemination of information.

Last week in Puerto Vallarta, another, more heterogeneous group, the Freedom Forum, a private organization that supports press projects around the world, met with the owners and editors of nine of the country's most independent newspapers. In one way or another, they repeated that the ills of 1974 continue to plague the press.

In other words, 18 years after that first meeting, the structural relationship between the Mexican Government and the mass media has not changed. Though the participants admitted that President Carlos Salinas de Gortari's administration has taken a number of initiatives with regard to the press, all agreed that they are not enough.

The government has undertaken a series of measures that, according to its spokespersons, are designed to make relations with the press more open. These actions have been good for public relations, but they have diverted the central purpose of the initiatives from the intended recipients.

The most recent and most controversial of such actions was the proposal to eliminate unrecorded payments to journalists. Although officials at the President's Office emphasize that this will reduce corruption in the mass media, that is not the purpose of the measure; it is a rhetorical pretext which has incidentally given them an excuse to brand as "corrupt" the press and the journalism profession.

But that is not the case.

1. The elimination of unrecorded payments amounts to official acknowledgement that the government was engaging in corrupt practices with the press and was bribing journalists.

2. These practices do not come to an end with the new measure; it simply regulates the money paid out of the government treasury. In no way does it mean that bribery is prohibited or punishable; it merely means that from now on, receipts must be issued and the VAT [value-added tax] must be paid.

This is a strictly administrative measure, and the only thing it will do is make sure corruption takes place with receipts. One might argue that the fact that journalists must sign receipts submitted to them by press secretaries will discourage this practice as a means of obtaining quick and easy money, but in any event, that will be a secondary effect of the measure.

The Salinas government wants to know where its money is going. There is no doubt about that, and there are two ways of interpreting its motives:

1. It wants to do away with the corruption of its own press secretaries, who have stolen money that they claimed was being paid to journalists but was never documented. It is no coincidence that the main opposition to the measure has come from various press secretaries, some of whom continue to disobey the presidential directives.

2. In a year of presidential succession, Los Pinos officials want to keep track of who is spending the most on press coverage to reinforce their own image or to sully that of their rivals.

This latter measure is indirectly connected to the 50-percent cut in the government press and propaganda budgets for this fiscal year. The government, however, has not revealed the allocations for these categories, nor has it provided information to the public regarding the progress or accomplishments of the initiative.

The deliberate concealment of this information has caused a rift in the Salinas cabinet. One faction consisted of Secretaries Maria Elena Vazquez Nava (Office of the Comptroller) and Pedro Aspe (Finance), who wanted any government *gacetillas* (propaganda disguised as information) to be identified as such.

President Salinas de Gortari supported those who came out forcefully against the measure, such as Manuel Camacho Solis, head of the Department of the Federal District, and Fernando Gutierrez Barrios, who at the time was secretary of the interior. Their argument was that if this propaganda was called by its true name, the opposition could quantify it and document its criticism.

Once again, we see that the presidential measures are not ultimately aimed at making press relations more open; otherwise, the arguments wielded by Camacho and Gutierrez would have been rejected.

At any rate, during the meeting in Puerto Vallarta several of the Mexican participants mentioned that the Salinas administration has been more forthcoming with the press.

If we were to take excerpts from the issues of a newspaper for today and for five, 10, and 20 years ago, we would indeed see major progress. But it would not be a realistic analysis, because it would ignore the social contexts in which the government and the press have been operating during those periods.

On the one hand, it would ignore the evolution of society. The Mexico of 1993 is very different from that of 1988, that of 1980, that of 1976, and that of 1968. Mexican society is better educated and more widely traveled, and it has more direct contacts abroad, so it has much greater access to more sophisticated information. It has different parameters, and it sees its reflection in a variety of mirrors. For this reason, it is more demanding. We should also point out that the mass media have drawn their personnel from this same society: young journalists who have different values and principles and are not willing to continue playing by the same rules.

And on the other hand, Salinas' economic liberalization and the privatization of state-owned enterprises go hand-in-hand, naturally and irreversibly, with the distribution of power. Thus, new interest groups are being created that operate independently of the government in the political sphere.

The Salinas government has indeed been more tolerant than other administrations, but it is not doing so in pursuit of democratic ideals—it simply has no choice.

* Hernandez Juarez on Federal Labor Law, Unity

93CA0088B Mexico City UNOMASUNO ("PAGINAUNO" supplement) in Spanish 15 Feb 93 p 7

[Report interview with Fesebes Secretary General Francisco Hernandez Juarez, by Antimio Cruz B.; place and date not given]

[Text] The labor movement in this country is undergoing a new transformation as a result of the economic modernization programs and the government reform proposed during this presidential term. The structural changes in the trade unions and the search for a new position for them within Mexican society are basic issues that will determine the role to be played by this agent in the country's productive and political processes in the coming years.

The secretary general of the Federation of Unions for Goods and Services Enterprises (Fesebes), Francisco Hernandez Juarez, has been identified as a key player in the so-called "new trade union" movement. The leader of Fesebes, which has seven member unions and holds six of the 37 seats in the Labor Congress, advocates far-reaching reforms in the organizations and changes in labor-management-government relations.

Hernandez Juarez, who is also leader of the telephone workers, explained to "PAGINAUNO" his views on the necessary changes, the differences of opinion among labor leaders, and the current status of the workers' defense organizations.

"My opinion is that during this intensive period of change in the country and throughout the world, labor unions seem to be having the most trouble adapting.

"I think the trade union movement is not promoting the changes in procedures and forms that are so necessary right now, and this obviously poses serious problems for them."

Hernandez Juarez indicated that there is a high degree of unionization in the country now, but if the organizations are not capable of gaining credibility and winning the workers' confidence so that they can respond to the new problems as well as the old ones that remain unsolved, people will lose faith in them. And without credibility, the unions will no longer be a reliable intermediary; business will become more aggressive in seizing opportunities to take advantage of the workers; and the government, meanwhile, will no longer consider the organizations a valid interlocutor, as it sees them losing their ability to marshal support to forge a consistent alliance.

"I think we are going through a serious crisis because we have not found the paths to that transformation, and I think the key to this problem is the trade union leadership.

"Although there are a number of leaders who understand the need to promote change, there are others who think this is just a temporary problem that will go away if we can hold out until a new president takes office and conditions return to normal.

"That is where much of the problem lies, in my view, and if we do not manage to reach an agreement to get these changes under way, I see things becoming very difficult for the workers in the coming years, and for the trade union movement as well."

[Cruz] With the founding and subsequent official recognition of the Fesebes, a new player has entered the stage in the national labor movement. It is being mentioned as the standard-bearer of the new trade union movement. What is the difference between the practices of the Fesebes and those of other organizations?

[Hernandez Juarez] First of all, we are a group of labor leaders who are convinced of the need to find a new way of operating unions in the country, to establish a new relationship with the government, to forge a new social pact, to redefine interunion relations, and to develop unified positions that will enable us to act more effectively as political organizations in defense of the workers. In other words, we need to restructure all the instruments that we currently have, such as the Labor Congress.

In the second place, we want to revise the way the unions in the federation are operated. We are striving to expand and improve our democratic practices, since we consider them an indispensable element of our work.

And in the third place, we are focusing our efforts on defining what it means to defend the workers. I think these are three essential aspects, and they represent a different approach.

Obviously, we want to promote change in accordance with the terms set forth by the Labor Congress. We do not intend to stray from those guidelines; we want to work shoulder-to-shoulder with our colleagues.

[Cruz] Have you made any specific proposals to the Labor Congress?

[Hernandez Juarez] We submitted a series of documents for the purpose of restructuring it, beginning with bylaws (which we do not have), and including a new program of action that will clearly define how unity and solidarity will work in the congress, as well as a restructuring of its instruments.

We contend that the organization should be headed by an Executive Committee rather than a General Secretariat with various commissions (which hardly ever function) and a president of the congress on whom we dump all the responsibility for this huge organization. We are also proposing that congresses be set up in the states, where there is hardly any contact with the organizations, much less united trade union activity.

All of this, plus reliable statistics will tell us how many organized workers there are in each amalgamated union [central] and each federation. This has really been a mystery. We do not know how many we are, and we have no target for membership.

These documents have been submitted and are being studied to see if they will succeed. And of course they will be a point of departure for reaching a consensus with everyone, because there are other proposals as well, about four of them. Ours, at least, is the most comprehensive one.

[Cruz] What do you think of Fidel Velazquez's proposal about making the number of delegates to the Labor Congress proportional to the number of members, to avoid the situation in which an amalgamated union with 1 million members has the same number of votes as a union with a few thousand members?

[Hernandez Juarez] I think it is not a bad idea to make the representation more proportional, but that is the crucial point; if you go by what each organization says about the number of workers it has, it would seem that all Mexicans are working.

Someone told me once that to figure out how many members there are in the Labor Congress and in the organizations, you have to ask why. If your purpose is to know how many political jobs each organization may be allocated, there may be as many as 14 million members in the Congress; and if you want to know how much each organization is supposed to contribute according to the number of worker-dues, the membership may drop to 4 million. That is why I think having realistic statistics is a key element to resolve.

I would have no problem if the number of delegates were tied to the number of workers an organization has, but the figures must be accurate. Furthermore, we must eliminate the amalgamated unions that have only one seat at the congress and the only representative of the organization is the one who attends the assembly, who provides the deciding vote for majority decisions and helps exclude organizations that do not agree with certain positions.

[Cruz] Will the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants (CROC) support your reform proposals?

[Hernandez Juarez] Obviously, we will work together with them to make proposals to the congress. It is no secret that we are looking for a way to reach a consensus. I hope we cannot only reach an agreement between the CROC and ourselves, but also extend an invitation to everyone with respect to these changes.

[Cruz] As you strengthen your ties with the CROC, the changes you propose take on more significance, but do you think this trend is representative of what is happening in the labor movement in general, given that the largest amalgamated union is not supporting you?

[Hernandez Juarez] Well, I think that the proof is in the pudding. If we keep insisting that the only way for the trade union movement to be a major player in the coming years is if it undergoes a transformation, and if we put that idea into practice in our own federation, the results will prove us right.

For the time being, it is still too early to say that the Fesebes proposal is already an option in and of itself. It is the beginning of a solution, but there is still a long way to go, and we need something quick.

[Cruz] So what is the status of these changes?

[Hernandez Juarez] We are in a kind of transition period. Those of us who are fighting for these changes have not yet managed to make this action a top priority in the workers' movement. And those who think that change is not necessary, that everything remains the same and the same behaviors should continue, are even stronger than we are. That is what is being sorted out right now. However, I think the process is irreversible. The most that this faction can achieve is to slow down the changes, and of course, to a certain extent, to prevent the labor movement from playing an active role in the coming years. But the changes will occur.

[Cruz] Is there a confrontation among the organizations?

[Hernandez Juarez] No, not as such. It is clear—as evidenced in the newspapers and the mass media—that there are differences of opinion regarding what is happening and what should be done in the trade union movement, but it has not gotten to the point of confrontation. I respect opinions that are opposed to ours because I think that is part of the freedom we have in this country to disagree with something. But there is no confrontation, it has not gotten to that level. Fortunately, we are no longer in the days when things were resolved by shootings or beatings. We are engaged in an activity that can be resolved in a civilized manner.

[Cruz] What relationship does the labor movement currently have with the government?

[Hernandez Juarez] In general, it is a good one, but I think it has entered a period of extreme confusion. The relationship we used to have no longer works, because of the reforms the government has carried out, and we have not yet defined what the new relationship will be. This is precisely because the labor movement does not have a unified stance that allows it to sit down with the government and redefine our relationship. Now, while some are taking advantage of this situation to portray themselves as loyal vassals, others are at the extreme point of confrontation, and I think this is of no use.

I think it should be a friendly relationship; an alliance would make sense and be worthwhile. But some sectors of the government believe we are mere subordinates, and that we should take orders from them.

It is also true that people in the trade union movement think entering into an alliance means giving unconditional support, and that should not be the tone at all. The relationship should be characterized by respect for autonomy, and the interests of each side should be clearly expressed. Based on that, we will be able to work together.

[Cruz] What kind of relationship does the labor movement have with the political parties? Can the unions still guarantee a certain number of votes?

[Hernandez Juarez] We live in a much more open, much more pluralistic society. The worker can no longer be offered up to a party in that manner, nor can a political relationship with the government be established, because there is no guarantee that the worker will act that way. I think there is a redefinition going on in that area, and I get the impression that the parties will need to make much more attractive political offers to bring the workers into the fold. Obviously the ruling party, more than any other, has fallen into great disfavor among the workers, and it will have to win back its credibility, become more competitive, and above all, establish mechanisms that will enable it to practice democracy much more effectively.

[Cruz] Will corporatism disappear?

[Hernandez Juarez] Definitely. It is not a question of anyone's will, but rather of the need to make the parties more competitive. There is no way for an organization or a leader to guarantee that the worker will vote for that party if the party is unable to convince the community. I think it goes hand-in-hand with a more demanding, more open society.

Furthermore, I think it is a good idea for the parties to seek all legitimate ways to grow closer to the people. I think they cannot refuse to deal with the unions at all. That strikes me as a completely valid option, but they cannot depend on that type of relationship to attract votes. It must be just one of many mechanisms in play.

[Cruz] Do you think we need to reform the legal framework regulating labor organizations?

[Hernandez Juarez] That is also a major bone of contention among many of my fellow leaders, because I think recent developments in the labor sphere are also bringing about rapid changes. The legal framework is oriented toward situations that have now changed or even disappeared.

The law should not be out of touch; it should be adjusted to these new conditions and make sure they benefit everyone.

Unfortunately, the current of opinion prevailing among businessmen is that given their own strength, economic power, and good relations with the government, and given the disunity of the trade union movement, this is an opportune moment to try to amend the Federal Labor Law (LFT) and do away with the accomplishments of the labor movement.

Sadly, that tendency exists, and the lack of unity among the trade unions causes them to say, "We do not want anyone to touch the law under any circumstances," because it is clear that under the present conditions, the interests of the workers may indeed be harmed. Meanwhile, the law is not updated, and I think we are wasting precious time. In my opinion, this limits the country's possibilities.

[Cruz] Would it work to make gradual amendments to the law?

[Hernandez Juarez] You cannot move gradually when events are taking place so quickly. My view is that the sectors must sit down and negotiate in a civilized manner to decide how they are going to move forward, not how to get into a fight or move backwards.

I do not think it should be gradual; I think we should talk about it seriously and resolve the matter thoroughly.

[Cruz] What do you see happening to the labor movement in the future?

[Hernandez Juarez] Ideally, I would like to see a unified organization, very horizontal, with a major presence in the country with respect to the government and business, and with a high degree of credibility among the workers. I would like to see substantial improvements in the standard of living and ongoing progress in social justice. To achieve that, ideally we should have an organization capable of bringing together all trade union groups and keeping them united in their efforts.

But it will not be at all easy. There are major interests trying to prevent this from occurring: Some business sectors think the pulverization of our movement is the best thing that could happen, some sectors of the government are worried about such a powerful force, and some union leaders are more concerned about their personal projects than about this effort.

These are difficult problems to resolve.... I cannot tell you now how they will be resolved. Ideally, hopefully, there will be a single amalgamated union.

[Cruz] Given existing circumstances, what is the best way to achieve unity in the labor movement?

[Hernandez Juarez] I think that as it becomes more and more necessary for the union leaders to respond to the workers, and as the workers become more and more capable of holding the leaders responsible for their actions, as the two-way relationship becomes stronger, then we will all be obliged and forced to reach an agreement to improve the situation of our fellow workers.

El Salvador

FMLN To Ask Copaz To Help Get Government Compliance

PA1304201993 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Jorge Shafik Handal, general coordinator of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], has said that his organization will ask for intercession from the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace [Copaz] to get the government to comply with the Truth Commission recommendations, as it has so far neglected to do.

Almost a month has elapsed since the Truth Commission issued its report, and according to Handal the FMLN still does not know which of the commission's recommendations the government will keep. The FMLN general coordinator charged that the government is displaying a mistaken attitude by delaying compliance with the report's recommendations.

[Begin Handal recording] The government is simply not keeping its signed commitments. I do not think the government will get away with this. It will have to comply. I think that is how things stand right now. The government is not acting properly. It is unwisely challenging the whole world. [end recording]

The FMLN leader stated that all the recommendations should be obeyed. He added that it would be positive if a schedule were established giving priority to judicial matters.

[Begin Handal recording] We believe judicial branch reforms are of utmost importance for the country and its future. The list of recommendations with the agreement on the judicial branch reached in Chapultepec would make the administration of justice in El Salvador something truly trustworthy, aboveboard, and useful to the nation. The reforms will further our reconciliation and affirm the state of rights in our country. [end recording]

Shafik Handal said the FMLN representation at Copaz will ask the organization to boost implementation of the Truth Commission recommendations by keeping its part, as suggested in the report. The FMLN will also request that Copaz establish a supervisory group to prepare implementation procedures and a schedule for the Truth Commission recommendations.

Guatemala

Serrano Meets With Foreign Delegates Who Favor Peace Process

PA1404035493 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 13 Apr 93 p 2

[Text] Delegates from countries that favor the peace process met with President Jorge Serrano at the Presidential Palace on 12 April to learn about the results of the latest meeting between the government and guerrillas, as well as the stand the government will assume in the next round of talks.

On 12 April, Foreign Minister Gonzalo Menendez Park confirmed the meeting, which began at 1300. Representatives of the Norwegian, Colombian, Venezuelan, Spanish, U.S., and Mexican Governments, as well as the government peace commission and President Serrano participated.

Menendez also said on 12 April that the next round of peace talks will begin 15 April, although it had previously been reported the meeting would take place in Mexico City on 14 April.

The government and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] are expected to make progress in the formation and determination of functions and term of a commission. The two sides are also expected to sign a human rights agreement and establish a final mechanism for civilian participation in the process.

The URNG on 12 April denied a cease-fire agreement had been reached during the negotiations, as the government would make believe, the NOTICIAS EN GUATEMALA NEWS AGENCY reported.

"The URNG General Command holds the government responsible for the failure of the most recent round of talks and accused Manuel Conde Orellana, head of the government delegation, of attempting to distort the results of the meeting," the report added.

Finally, the dispatch said the URNG regarded "the government's attempt at making modifications on the participation of civilians in the talks, a point that had already been agreed upon, as absurd and undemocratic."

Human Rights Commission Calls on UN, OAS To Verify Violations

PA1304164493 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 12 Apr 93 p 5

[Text] The Commission for the Defense of Human Rights in Central America [Codehuca] has urgently called on the United Nations and the OAS, respectively, to appoint special missions to verify human rights violations in Guatemala.

The public declaration, dated and issued in Costa Rica, is signed by the Costa Rican Human Rights Commission, Codehuca, the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission [CDHG] headquartered in Costa Rica, the Ecumenical Department of Investigations, and the Research and Publishing Center.

The document is also signed by the Ecumenical Center for Pastoral Formation and Social Action, the Social Action Study Center, the Employment Promotion Services Association, the National Pastoral Action Center, and the Development Promotion Center.

Other signatories include the Latin American Communications Teaching Institute, the People's Education Association Center, Alfalit Nacional, El Productor Cooperative, the Indigenous Groups World Council, and the Women's Legal Assistance Center.

The Proposals

The pronouncement states: "We urgently request immediate intervention through special missions of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission of the OAS as well as from specialized UN organizations."

Those missions would be responsible for identifying violations of human rights principles in Guatemala as well as for urging the government to implement appropriate measures to safeguard the life and physical and psychological integrity of 24 persons who are receiving death threats.

With respect to that issue, the signatories express their concern for the status of union workers, newspaper reporters, university students, intellectuals, community leaders, and nongovernmental organization activists who have received threats due to their participation in the country's political and social life.

"We strongly condemn the continuation of the institutionalized practice of repression and terror, as well as the extrajudicial executions perpetrated against leaders and grass-roots members of various people's movements," the document reads.

As an example, the document cites the murder of civil engineer Axel Santizo and Guatemala Flash radio operator Marcos Tulio Diaz Vargas, accountability for which falls on "the repressive clandestine apparatus," according to disclosures made by individuals close to the cases.

The organizations point toward the Army Intelligence Section, better known as G-2, which falls directly under the Army High Command.

In addition, the document states that "the international community and the Guatemalan people still vividly remember the bloodbath started 10 years ago under the 'de facto' administration of General Efrain Rios Mont when the president of the State Council was Jorge Antonio Serrano Elias."

The signatories also believe "that type of conduct, which is cloaked in anonymity, illegality, and impunity, is contrary to the constitutional mandate that calls for safeguarding the lives of all Guatemalans and foreigners living in the country." In response to that situation, those individuals are now raising their voices in protest.

For the same reason they are strongly demanding a pronouncement from President Serrano Elias' administration detailing the guarantees that will safeguard the life, physical integrity, and safety of all Guatemalans, especially the 24 countrymen who have received death threats.

The document continues: "We urgently call on Serrano Elias' administration for an immediate halt to the repression and on government human rights organizations" such as the PDH [Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman] and the legislative and presidential human rights commissions to solve the crimes against humanity.

The document further states: "Those responsible for such violations should be tried in civilian courts to end the impunity that reigns in Guatemala."

The document states that the situation is preventing civilian participation in the dialogue between the Armed Forces and the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity. It also is blocking local and international nongovernmental organizations' efforts to escort the refugees and the displaced persons in their return to Guatemala.

To conclude, the document calls on the media, labor unions, and human rights, religious, women's, Indian, development groups and other organizations to declare themselves in a "state of emergency as sentinels of the serious situation the Guatmalan people are experiencing."

Military Court Sentences Ex-Hunapu Task Force Members

PA1404030493 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 13 Apr 93 p 6

[Text] On 12 April, the Military Court sentenced seven former members of the now defunct Hunapu Task Force to four years and 10 months in prison for their participation in the death of student Julio Roberto Cu Quin and the injury of five other university students on 10 April 1992. The sentence can be commuted.

According to the resolution, the seven men were found guilty of perpetrating a homicide during a bloody brawl and inflicting slight and serious injuries.

These are the names of the sentenced: Edgar Arturo Anton, Hilario Agustin Cardona Alvarez, Mario Vasquez Avila, Jose Abel Lima de la Cruz, Rodolfo Donis Osorio, Luciano Eladio Galeano Grave, and Lazaro Humberto Lopez Hernandez.

In addition, the military court acquitted Aubaldo Aquilino Corado, a member of the Mobile Military Police, due to a lack of sufficient evidence of his participation.

Army Troops, URNG Guerrillas Clash Before Resumption of Peace Talks

PA1404030393 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0033 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 13 Apr (ACAN-EFE)—Five soldiers and one insurgent were killed in the past two armed clashes between Army troops and Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, guerrillas. The government and URNG resume peace talks on 14 April in Mexico.

Army spokesman Captain Julio Alberto Yon Rivera said that the most serious clashes took place on 12 April in Playa Grande, Quiche Department, where five soldiers were killed in a clash with URNG members.

The victims were identified as Lieutenant Roger Harrison Peralta Gonzalez; Corporal Felix Anibal Gonzalez y Gonzalez; and Paratroopers Jose Victor Lopez Galicia, Jose Felipe Juarez, and Ignacio Lopez.

A guerrilla whose identity was not disclosed died on 11 April during an armed clash in Fray Bartolome de las Casas Municipality (Alta Verapaz).

In this area on 9 March the Army found an injured child dressed in a camouflage uniform and bearing a rifle and a Magnum pistol. He was the fourth minor linked by the Army to the URNG.

Capt. Julio Yon also reported the discovery of nine guerrilla caches in western Chimaltenango Department.

In San Lucas Toliman Municipality, the military found food and in Patzun they discovered weapons, knapsacks, clothes, medicine, and documents.

Honduras

Ad Hoc Commission Presents Report to President Callejas

PA1404000193 Tegucigalpa Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text of document presented to President Rafael Leonardo Callejas by the High-Level Ad Hoc Commission for Institutional Reform at the Presidential Palace in Tegucigalpa; read by Monsignor Oscar Andres Rodriguez Maradiaga—live]

[Text] Your Excellency President of the Republic, honorable special guests, viewers and listeners throughout the country:

The High-Level Ad Hoc Commission for Institutional Reform that will ensure social peace in Honduras is honored to present to you the document containing its final, immediate, and medium-term proposals, in accordance with the various topics established in the agreement that created this commission.

The High-Level Ad Hoc Commission, aware of the concern of the Honduran people in light of the problems of violence, crime, drug trafficking; corruption and deficiencies within the police, judicial, and the jail systems; and the opportunity, convenience, and need for reorganizing essential institutions in the country, has worked hard and with civic and patriotic devotion to carry out the tasks assigned, sparing no effort or time, with the sole purpose of contributing to the solution of these problems

In studying the proposals and making its recommendations, the High-Level Ad Hoc Commission has always kept the highest interests of the nation in mind, as well as our people's reality. It maintained an objective and practical view of the problems and of the appropriate solutions under the current circumstances experienced by the country.

We wish to point out that the commission's organization and operation represents a democratic exercise and a serious and responsible effort in the Honduran people's attempts to solve their problems by means of a broad, open, comprehensive, and highly constructive dialogue. This exercise, which we believe can serve as an example for the whole nation, is a suitable instrument in our attempt to solve the country's fundamental problems. We hope to have interpreted correctly the goals the head of the Executive Branch, the heads of other government branches, the Armed Forces commander in chief, the other military commanders and high-ranking officers, the country's presidential candidates, the political party representatives, the media, and the president of the National Reconciliation Commission had in mind when they created this commission. We humbly thank you for the trust placed in us.

Mr. President, we hope that the fruit of our work will be useful in the efforts to establish the groundwork to attain the social peace the Honduran people so desire. Thank you.

I will now read the immediate- and medium-term proposals of the Ad Hoc Commission, in compliance with Executive Decree No. 16-93.

Introduction: Various sociopolitical and cultural factors have led Hondurans to lose some faith in the administration of justice and the police, despite the implementation of programs such as public defense and preparatory schools for the Judicial Branch and prosecutors, whose main goal is administering justice in an independent, impartial, and efficient manner; and despite the reforms made in the country's police system.

Continuous local and international criticism has undermined the systematic efforts of the Honduran Government with the help of various international organizations. Associations and social and economic organizations have pointed out to the Ad Hoc Commission the problems of corruption and politicization of the country's courts, and the problem of violence attributed to police groups, especially the Department of National Investigation [DIN].

The Ad Hoc Commission—in a brief, specific, and timely manner and with due respect—presents the proposals contained in points A through D of said decree, which should be implemented without delay.

Prosecutor General's Office [ministerio publico] and the DIN:

Honduran society requires the creation of an organization to protect it from acts that jeopardize Hondurans' personal safety and property. The creation of a Prosecutor General's Office as a sole, independent, efficient,

autonomous, professional, and apolitical organization is a necessity we cannot postpone. This has been a long awaited aspiration of the nation, throughout its history. This office should administer criminal justice publicly as an irrevocable obligation and should watch over the country's highest interests.

Although it is not our goal to draft a basic law for the Prosecutor General's Office—because there are institutions tasked with this duty and this commission has several projects pertaining to this topic—we do want to point out a few of its characteristics. The Prosecutor General's Office represents society before state jurisdictional organizations. It enjoys operational and administrative autonomy in fulfilling duties and exercising powers.

Those duties and powers are fulfilled and exercised by the prosecutor general [fiscal general del estado] and prosecutors [agentes fiscales] in the manner determined by law. The prosecutor general will ensure respect for constitutional rights and guarantees and investigate crimes and find the culprits. He will have the irrevocable obligation to administer criminal justice publicly, start suits against public servants who violate the law, protect the nation's interests, and among others, protect the ecosystem and the rights of Honduran ethnic groups.

The special law that will determine the internal organization of the Prosecutor General's Office will also serve to create suitable departments:

The nation's prosecutor general:

The nation's prosecutor general must be an attorney elected by the National Congress the same way Supreme Court of Justices are elected, by two-thirds of the votes of the members of Congress and for a seven-year period. He can be reelected and he will enjoy the same immunity privileges of justices. He can be suspended only by the National Congress following a declaration that the opening of proceedings is appropriate. He can be dismissed by the minister if he is found guilty during a trial.

The nation's prosecutor general must be Honduran by birth, over 35, and an attorney. He must have functioned as an attorney, or as a judge, or have served as a university law professor for at least 10 years in an alternate or in a continuous fashion.

The Department of Criminal Investigation [DIC]:

This is a police and investigatory corps that comes under the prosecutor general and must be entirely professional. To achieve this, it is necessary to consider the following aspects:

DIC must provide continuous services to handle social needs and job requirements must be met. The procedures for selecting applicants must be objective, technical, and scientific.

Instruction must be based on objective rules and responsibilities must be clearly outlined. There must be a hierarchical organization, firm ethical guidelines, communication with the people, obedience to the Prosecutor General's Office, and a record of agents.

DIC personnel must be associated to the Teachers Retirement and Pension Institute. Personnel who have been associated with the Military Welfare Institute may remain with this association if they so wish.

The commission feels the management of the DIC should utilize personnel with experience hired without any kind of discrimination that could negatively affect legitimate rights and that obedience is due to the Prosecutor General's Office.

The DIC director:

The DIC director must be Honduran by birth, have a higher education, and must fill requirements established by the law. He will be appointed by the nation's prosecutor general from a list prepared by a board made up of two Supreme Court of Justice magistrates chosen by a court plenum, the national human rights commissioner, the government and justice minister, and the defense and public security minister.

The DIC director may be dismissed from his post by the nation's prosecutor general, according to the law.

DIC agents:

DIC personnel must be selected based on selection practices established by independent units. Applicants will be publicly called to take tests. Essential selection premises are listed in an annexed document.

Short-term goals:

Starting now until the law creating the Prosecutor General's Office is created, and while the prosecutor general is elected, the DIN intervention board must complete the functions for which it was created. It will work full time applying the new concepts. It will prepare the transition for the implementation of the new investigatory organization of the state.

This board, with proper advisory services, will prepare the entity's budget. Simultaneously, agents will be selected and duly trained. We have national experience in this and have received offers of cooperation from other countries.

This is why it is so important to depend on the political will of the Honduran people represented on the High-Level Ad Hoc Commission and on the historic responsibility assumed by the constitutional president of the Republic, Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero.

Medium- and long-term goals:

The Prosecutor General's Office should be organized by January 1994; a prosecutor general should be chosen, and a budget for the Prosecutor General's Office should be completed. Once the Prosecutor General's Office has

been organized, the various duties of the purged DIN will be transferred. Prior to the transfer, the prosecutor general will appoint a new DIN director.

The Presidency of the Republic, the National Congress, the Supreme Court of Justice, and the Armed Forces command will be responsible for ensuring that these immediate- and medium-term measures are implemented by the appropriate authorities.

Chapter two refers to the police system.

Specific and immediate measures:

A National Study and Advisory Group for the police corps should be created immediately. This group will abide by the following rules:

1. This group will be formed by a delegate and his deputy appointed by the National Autonomous University of Honduras, the Honduran Armed Forces, media associations, and a delegate appointed by the Presidency of the Republic. The delegates will be professionals, preferably specialized or with experience in police matters or related areas. The representative of the Honduran Armed Forces should be a high-ranking police officer. All the representatives must be Hondurans by birth, must be 30 years of age or older, and be serious and honest. The members of the National Study and Advisory Group will work on a full time basis. They will receive a salary established by the organizations or institutions they represent.

The National Study and Advisory Group will have the following duties:

To cooperate in drafting a system for evaluating all Public Security Forces [Fusep] personnel, as well as its equipment and other material.

To prepare a short- and medium-term program for the technical, civic, and moral training to cover the needs of qualified personnel at the Fusep.

To study and recommend the changes that are necessary for the organization and functioning of the Fusep, including the coordination with the Prosecutor General's Office, which will lead to greater efficiency of its services.

To provide elements to delineate the profile of officers, noncommissioned officers, agents, and auxiliary personnel of the Fusep, who are needed by the country to guarantee the democratic, peaceful, and orderly development of values, rights, and obligations of persons and organizations of Honduran society in general.

To recommend mechanisms that will secure the continuity of the sectarian apoliticization of persons at the police corps and state entities.

To prepare a table of classification of positions and salaries and a police force draft bill, considering the measures for their modernization and improvement.

To prepare a current and future social security plan for the personnel of different units, considering the nature and characteristics of the services.

Following compliance with the aforementioned functions and utilizing the experience obtained during the time it has operated, the National Study and Advisory Group will recommend the definite inclusion of the police forces in the state apparatus. Once the situation of the police forces has been defined, the National Study and Advisory Group will be dissolved.

The government will request the technical assistance of international organizations and friendly governments to cooperate with the National Study and Advisory Group and supply the resources needed to reorganize and upgrade the services of the police units.

The Executive Branch will draft the necessary bills to implement the measures that may be proposed.

Intermediate goals:

A higher collegiate organism with a broad representation of sectors of society should be created. It is to be tasked with drafting the policies of the police corps.

The Presidency, the Armed Forces High Command, the Public Security Force General Command, and the National Congress will implement the immediate and intermediate measures suggested herein. Each one is to do so within its sphere of action and at the opportune moment within the respective procedure.

Chapter 3 refers to the judicial system.

The Ad Hoc Commission is aware that the strengthening of the Judicial Branch and the specific immediate measures that promote the creation of new auxiliary organisms of the Judicial Branch and reinforce existing ones should primarily aim at administering justice fairly and carrying out the administrative activity of the Judicial Branch at the appropriate time. This will ensure that the Judicial Branch can effectively protect the rights of citizens and their property. This is a way to help reduce the potential causes that lead to violence and popular unrest.

The Commission lists the following among those causes—although it does not try to exhaust the topic: impunity; alleged corruption of top officials and their assistants in the judicial organizations; mistrust in the judicial system, which leads to different modes of revenge; public statements against the judicial system; the indiscriminate jailing of persons facing trial or convicted, which fosters a lack of respect for the constitutional principle of the presumption of innocence until proven guilty; the highly criticized delays in processing penal suits involving people who have been indicted but have never been convicted; and the harmful activities of drug traffickers who stand to gain by the discredit and lack of credibility of the men in charge of administering justice.

Therefore, after considering the reasons mentioned above and respectful of the independence and dignity of the Judicial Branch, the Commission submits the following proposals.

Immediate measures:

1. To expunge sectarian politics from the Judicial Branch. To improve the image of the justice system, which has been accused of being highly politicized, the Executive Branch must propose an agreement with the political parties that ensures sectarian politics do not play a role in the Judicial Branch, its auxiliary organisms, and the Prosecutor General's Office. The legally registered and recognized political parties must proceed to reach an agreement as soon as possible to promote the credibility of the entities within the system of justice. They must seriously pledge to respect the professionalization of this branch, job stability, and judicial and administrative careers. The National Congress must select the best qualified persons to serve as judges. The responsible entity is going to be the Presidency, considering the president is empowered to guide the general policy of the state based on Article 245, Number 2, of the Constitution.

2. To improve the Judicial Branch and clear up widespread charges of alleged acts of corruption attributed to Judicial Branch officials and employees, it is necessary to take steps to investigate the assets of its personnel.

As an initial step, the creation of a committee on judicial integrity is recommended. This committee will consist of the judicial inspector and an auditor proposed by the Administrative Integrity General Directorate [Direccion General de Probidad Administrativa]. The committee's main task will be to investigate charges and possible cases of illegal enrichment by Judicial Branch personnel. This committee will have to report the results of the investigation to the Administrative Integrity General Directorate so it can proceed according to the law. The Supreme Court, with the cooperation of the Administrative Integrity General Directorate, will be the responsible institution.

It is recommended that the Supreme Court immediately draft, approve, publish, and implement a code of judicial ethics. This code will strengthen the regulations that Judicial Branch officials and employees must follow to behave, publicly and privately, in an irreproachable way. This code will be used in the ceremony to swear in every Judicial Branch employee and official. Any violation of it will be reason for dismissal.

3. To improve the jurisdictional activity of the lower military courts, it is recommended that within 30 days the president of the Republic, as the general commander, give instructions to the commander in chief of the Armed Forces so that, in agreement with the Supreme Court, he can proceed to install lower military courts to allow free access of citizens. This should be done to improve the image of the court and help citizens who have cases against active service personnel.

This measure will be implemented by the general command, the commander in chief, and the Supreme Court, which will announce the location of these courts.

It is suggested that jurisdictional problems between military and common courts be settled immediately. This should be done so that, through the powers legally granted to the Supreme Court by the Constitution, the law on the organization of the country's courts, and the penal and military codes, all pending cases involving conflicts of jurisdiction between military and common courts will be settled within 60 days. This applies to crimes committed by active members of the Armed Forces.

The previous measure will be implemented by the Supreme Court within the established term through the president's good offices in his role as general commander of the Armed Forces.

4. The creation of a judicial auditing office is a priority due to the number of cases pending sentences. Approximately 80 percent of the inmates in the country's jails have not been sentenced. Such an office will be tasked with registering all trials pending conclusion. It will also be in charge of determining the reason for trial delays, classifying the various trials, and recommending the type of solution or sentencing that must be issued to finalize these processes.

Using its legal powers, the Supreme Court will appoint the members of the Technical Judicial Auditing Office and will issue the instructions it deems advisable for them to fulfill their mission. It is recommended that the Technical Judicial Auditing Office draft a report to the Supreme Court within 60 days after the appointment of these members. Based on the results, the Supreme Court will establish the deadlines for compliance by the corresponding judiciary branches. The entity responsible for implementing this measure will be the Supreme Court of Justice.

5. The nation will be provided with information about basic rights, constitutional guarantees, and basic juridical knowledge. This will permit citizens to become aware of their obligations and rights, as well as guarantee that the Constitution and laws of the Republic are fulfilled. It is proposed that the Press Secretariat broadcast once a week for 60 minutes on Radio Honduras and other radio stations wishing to collaborate the "Popular Juridical Education" program, which will be prepared by the Supreme Court.

This activity should begin on 1 May 1993. The entity responsible for implementing this activity will be the Press Secretariat in coordination with the Supreme Court.

Long-term measures:

It is proposed that the Supreme Court draft a plan to expand the public defense and judicial school, including their corresponding budget structure. This plan will be

executed during the first half of 1994. The entity responsible for this plan will be the Supreme Court of Justice, with the support and cooperation of the Executive Branch.

Cooperation measures:
In keeping with the ideas and basic objectives of the national agreement for institutional reforms guaranteeing security and social peace in Honduras and to contribute to an atmosphere of peace and harmony in Honduran society, the High-Level Ad Hoc Commission makes the following recommendations and suggestions:

It urges civilian and military authorities to exercise their powers and carry out their duties in keeping with the Constitution and other laws of the Republic. In addition, it calls on organizations, institutions, associations, companies, and other private companies, as well as the foreign and domestic population in general, to exercise the freedoms and rights recognized by the Constitution with absolute responsibility and respect to the freedoms and rights of others, within the framework of law.

It condemns any form of impunity by persons, groups, sectors, or parts of the nation, whether related to state institutions or civilian society. It recommends that the Executive Branch take steps to obtain the cooperation of international organizations and friendly governments for the investigation and clearing up of the murders that have shocked Honduran society and caused repercussions that prompted the creation of the High-level Ad Hoc Commission.

It fully supports the initiatives, efforts, and actions that are being carried out or will be executed in the future by the Supreme Court of Justice aimed at strengthening the judicial system and creating the conditions necessary to regain the trust of the Honduran people and foreigners.

It urges Congress to approve the reforms to the organization and attributions of court law to empower the Supreme Court to create courts and tribunals, thereby modifying the competence of the existing courts and tribunals to facilitate the organization of the Judiciary Branch.

It recommends that the Executive Branch task one of its organizations with the implementation and coordination of the measures recommended by this Ad Hoc Commission, which have not been assigned to a particular organization. It recommends that Congress form a commission of jurists as soon as possible to study and improve the penal and criminal legislation, with the support of foreign experts. This commission will be tasked with drafting the corresponding bills.

After hearing the opinions of the different entities with which it met, the Commission confirmed unanimity exists on the view about the urgent need to reform the system to administer justice, as it is obsolete and inefficient, and to establish oral and public trials. As the irregular functioning of the National Registry of Citizens is evident, the Commission urges the political parties to take joint initiative at the National Congress to separate this entity from the National Electoral Tribunal, to depoliticize it, and to turn it into a technical entity.

The institutional nature of the Human Rights Commissioner's Office must be strengthened by issuing the appropriate law so that it can become an instrument that effectively protects the fundamental rights of Hondurans. The heads of the Legislative and Judicial Branches, presidential candidates, and bloc chiefs in the National Congress must intercede with any institution or authority—civilian or military, as the case may be—to contribute to implement the measures President Rafael Leonardo Callejas Romero may adopt.

We have been pleased to see the efforts of the Government and Justice Ministry to reform the physical structure of Honduran prisons, as well as the training of inmates. These efforts notwithstanding, the appropriate departments must continue their current investigation on prisons, particularly on the central prison. The results of the investigation must be made public to ensure the measures that are needed will be implemented. The national prison system must continue the efforts conducted inside the jails to provide security to all Hondurans.

To conclude, we want to make a plea to the owners and workers of local and foreign media companies. The task of replacing a culture of death, confrontation, and crime with a culture of life, peace, and unity for the sake of the best interests of our fatherland requires a major contribution from the media. Now more than ever in all the aspects of our life as citizens—journalists included—we have the urgent need to recover the ethical dimension. Each Honduran has a right to his dignity, personal and family privacy, and good name. There is much room for improvement, chiefly in the handling of criminal offenses, to foster a climate in which violence ends. Thank you. [applause]

President Callejas Comments on Report

PA1404015493 Tegucigalpa Radio and Television Networks in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Speech by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas on Ad Hoc Commission report at the Presidential Palace in Tegucigalpa—live]

[Text] Monsignor Oscar Rodriguez; Marco Augusto Hernandez, Congress vice president; Orlando Lozano Martinez, Supreme Court of Justice president; General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, commander of the Armed Forces; Carlos Roberto Reina, presidential candidate for the Liberal Party; Osman Valladares, presidential candidate for the Social Democratic Innovation and Unity Party; Cesar Castellanos Madrid, representative of Jose Osvaldo Promo, presidential candidate for the National Party; Gerson Tower, representative of the Christian Democratic Party; Jorge Canahuati, representative of

the media; rector of the Honduran Autonomous University; members of the diplomatic services; members of the cabinet; officers of the Armed Forces; special mounted forces; fellow Hondurans.

On this occasion, I must thank God and the Honduran people for this opportunity to address you at such an important time for our nation. On 1 March, I was deeply moved by a report prepared by a commission made up of distinguished Hondurans who worked in accordance with the desire and will of the Honduran people. Undoubtedly, the commission report represents the most eloquent expression that the Honduran people could expect in the search for its own destiny, social progress, and future in peace, freedom, and democracy. On a special date, so memorable for present and future Hondurans, representatives of all sectors, under the president's guidance, sought and defined a course away from the violence that pervades Honduran society.

After a lengthy debate by delegates of all essential state institutions, the Armed Forces commander, high command officers, the presidential candidates of the four legally registered parties, the political parties' central organs, media representatives, and the heads of political factions at Congress, an agreement was signed to create a High-Level Ad Hoc Commission for Institutional Reform that would guarantee security and social peace in Honduras.

Immediately thereafter, the Presidency and the Council of Ministers issued the corresponding decree creating the Ad Hoc Commission and appointing the commission members, who were sworn in and assumed office. I could not deny I became moved, as all the Honduran people in general would be, when I learned the commission did its job in less than 30 days. The commission recommended short- and long-term proposals, which the commissioners believe can ensure social peace in the country. The Honduran people in general thank the commissioners for their work, which lasted more than 12 hours daily, during which they debated the proposals to ensure security and peace and dispel the ghost of war and imbalance in Honduran society. The people should feel satisfied because the commissioners met their expectations and have dispelled forever the idea that commissions are only good for delaying the solution of problems.

The report presented to the president is so precise that it even mentions the names of the public institutions responsible for enforcing the measures the commissioners recommended.

Thus, methodologically speaking, this is a good idea because each Honduran will know the next step that will be taken to implement each measure. The maturity shown by the Honduran nation stands as an example for future generations and these dates must be registered in the fatherland's civic calendar because all those who are here and all Hondurans who are represented by them should rest assured we will carry out these recommendations. We will carry out these recommendations because we are convinced that recommendations made in good faith can bear nothing but positive fruits that are socially acceptable and legally lasting and that will effect the well-being, safety, and tranquillity for all those who live in this dear land of our hopes and dreams.

Given that these profound and patriotic thoughts and that bringing peace for all is our responsibility—the top public officials—I receive from you, the president of the Ad Hoc Commission, the report in question and the files you presented to the Honduran people through me in my capacity as constitutional president of the Republic.

For all the reasons mentioned and as president of the Republic, I am committed to making every effort to implement the measures recommended by the Ad Hoc Commission. As a result, we will proceed immediately to:

1. Establish a commission made up of jurists of the highest capabilities to draft a report and a draft bill on the creation of the Prosecutor General's Office within 30 days after their appointment.

2. Issue the corresponding document to eliminate the Ad Hoc Commission because it fulfilled its goals efficiently.

3. Reestablish the Ad Hoc Commission as soon as the legislative decree creating the Prosecutor General's Office is issued for the sole purpose of—if the members of the commission and the honorable deputies deem advisable—proposing a slate of suitable citizens from which to choose the prosecutor general. We would like the prosecutor general to start working within 90 days, instead of January 1994. We will appoint immediately the citizens who will make up the National Study and Advisory Group of police corps [Grupo Nacional de Asesoria y Estudio de los Cuerpos de Policia], and inaugurate them.

In this ceremony I make formal presentation to the presidents of the National Congress and honorable Supreme Court of Justice of the report presented to me by the Ad Hoc Commission to ensure they proceed to implement as soon as possible the actions they are being urged to carry out within their respective jurisdictions.

Dear compatriots, Most Illustrious and Reverend Msgr. Oscar Andres Rodriguez, there are few moments in our civic history that give our people the opportunity to find better alternatives to ensure unequivocal respect for their most basic rights, for their rights as citizens, and ensure respect for the principles we Hondurans want to see prevail among leaders of our society.

In your report you reflect successfully the feelings of the Honduran people. We must thank you for your efforts and voice our commitment to implement these recommendations as soon as possible. I wish to voice the eternal gratitude of the Honduran people for your exemplary behavior as citizens. Thank you. [applause]

Armed Forces Chief on Cooperation

PA1404022293 Tegucigalpa Telesistema Hondureno Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Interview with General Luis Alonso Discua Elvir, Armed Forces chief, by Mayra Navarro at the Presidential Palace in Tegucigalpa—live]

[Text] [Navarro] One of the institutions most frequently mentioned in the Ad Hoc Commission's recommendations is the Armed Forces, for which reforms have been suggested that will require the full approval of the military hierarchy. General Discua, how will the Armed Forces contribute and cooperate toward the immediate execution of these measures?

[Discua] The Ad Hoc Commission's report clearly states the manner in which the Armed Forces will contribute to the immediate fulfillment of the recommended measures. From the moment the commission was formed, the Armed Forces, as part of the Executive Branch, expressed a willingness to support the fulfillment of all the measures involving the Armed Forces Command to succeed in resolving our problems.

[Navarro] What does it mean to the Armed Forces that a group formed mostly by civilians has made these recommendations?

[Discua] I believe this is an agreement between citizens and members of the Armed Forces and it has proved highly favorable because we are living in peace and tranquillity in our country.

[Navarro] Do you believe, General, that once these measures are implemented they will help improve the Armed Forces?

[Discua] Definitely. This is a plan to modernize the Armed Forces; it is the future of the institution. It is a project for 2000, which the institution must undertake as part of its reorganization. What we have done today is the first step toward modernizing the Armed Forces.

[Navarro] Speaking of the future of the Armed Forces, does this mean this is an opening by the Armed Forces to give civilian society greater influence in the discussion of military affairs? Is it a new attitude by the Armed Forces toward civilian society?

[Discua] Honduran citizens should participate in all the activities of all state institutions. The Armed Forces, of course, belong to the state and Honduran citizens should contribute their ideas and initiatives to improving state institutions.

[Navarro] Don't you believe the Armed Forces' autonomy will be restricted if the recommendations are accepted?

[Discua] Definitely not. Our autonomy, which has existed for a very long time, has never been questioned. I believe the Armed Forces have been improved and I believe the Directorate of Criminal Investigation, as it is called now, will greatly contribute to the best investigations possible in this country.

[Navarro] What attitude are you expecting from the political parties and, specifically, from the Liberal Party which is now a part of the opposition?

[Discua] I do not like to express my views concerning political parties, but I believe representatives from the four political parties were on this commission and they contributed their experience and initiative to the recommendations made to the Honduran people.

[Navarro] Thank you, General.

Nicaragua

D. Ortega Urges Clinton Administration To Suspend Cuba Blockade

PA1304193593 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 13 Apr 93 p 12

[Article by David Guillermo Lopez]

[Text] Former President Daniel Ortega has urged President Bill Clinton's administration to suspend the economic blockade against Cuba and called on the Nicaraguan people for solidarity with the Cuban children who lack milk due to damage caused by the storm of the century.

Ortega stated on 12 April that the U.S. Congress should immediately suspend the economic blockade it has maintained against Cuba for over three decades as the blockade violates the Cuban people's rights, even more so in these times of natural disasters.

The former president recalled Pope John Paul II's recent call to Christians and Muslims to contribute food, blankets, and medicine to help the Caribbean island's inhabitants, whose basic grain, tobacco, and sugar cane harvests were virtually wiped out by the storm that swept the island.

Members of the Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity with Cuba met on 12 April with the Sandinist leader and reported that on 14 May they will conclude the One Pound of Milk for Cuban Infants campaign. The campaign will end with an artistic telethon expected to garner donations of all kinds, particularly processed milk.

Committee coordinator Melanie Vega said that as of yesterday the organization had collected more than 7,000 pounds of powdered milk and $7,000 donated by the Austrian Development Service.

Vega reported that many of the milk cans received expire in June; therefore it is urgent to send the cargo to the island to avoid losses.

Pedro Lovaina, a Cuban Embassy official in Managua, explained the difficult situation his compatriots are experiencing due to the storm damage. Lovaina also demanded the suspension of the three-decade old U.S. blockade the island has endured.

Argentina

Italian Terrorist Detained in Buenos Aires

PY1304195593 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1658 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Apr (NA)—Italian terrorist Augusto Caucci has been detained in the Once District of this capital by Interpol agents. He is charged with involvement in the attack at the Bolonia railroad station in 1980.

Caucci, 42, is an expert in explosives and is wanted by the Italian courts for his suspected participation in the attack in Bolonia which caused more than 80 deaths and injured about 400 people.

The terrorist was arrested shortly after midnight in an apartment at 2400 Sarmiento Street in the Once District of this capital.

Police sources have stated that Caucci has reportedly been living in our country for about 10 years. Caucci has been placed at the disposal of Federal Judge Martin Irurzun.

Technical Support Extended to Capital, Four Provinces

PY1304222993 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Apr 93 p 5

[Text] (NA-DYN)—The national government signed an agreement yesterday with four provinces and the Federal Capital whereby it will provide them with technical assistance to modify their respective public sectors. The government will also back them up in their request for a 300-million-dollar loan to be given by the World Bank which will be used to finance these changes.

The signing ceremony yesterday which was hosted by President Carlos Menem was also attended by Interior Minister Gustavo Beliz, City Mayor Saul Bouer and the executives of those provinces involved: the Governor of Tucuman, Ramon Ortega, of Entre Rios Mario Moine, of Santa Fe Carlos Reutemann, and the Vice-governor of Misiones Miguel Angel Alterach.

The agreement stipulates that the government will supply technical know-how and resources to carry out changes in the public sector at both provincial and municipal levels. This is on the understanding that the provinces agree to privatize state-run companies as well as downsizing and professionalizing the public employee sector.

Menem, who was the only speaker at the ceremony, offered his full backing to Interior Minister Beliz whose ministry, he said, will handle "everything to do with the reform of the state."

During his extensive speach, Menem pointed out that to carry out this reform "it is necessary to have resources at one's disposal, which we have, but it is also necessary for there to be capability, honesty, and transparency." Menem went on to state that this form of agreement would be made available to the rest of the provinces and that "if we carry out a well-ordered, responsible and conscientious task I'm quite sure that we will continue to receive financial backing from overseas."

After the signing agreement Beliz hosted a lunch for Ortega, Reutemann and Moine during which they expressed their provinces' urgent need for financial assistance from the government to revert their grave social situation. Ortega pointed out that his province will need about 80 million dollars between now and 1995 while Reutemann said that his province would need "much more that that to enable us to get rid of the shanty towns and solve the unemployment problem in Santa Fe."

Unfulfilled Ecological Commitments at Yacyreta Denounced

PY1404030793 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 13 Apr 93 pp 32-33

[Article by Sergio Federovisky]

[Text] The unnexpected suspension of the meeting that President Carlos Menem was to hold today with his Paraguayan counterpart Andres Rodriguez has prevented discussion of why the $80 million international credit granted for environmental projects at the Yacyreta dam has not been invested, on the Argentine side, in the fauna reserves which have been projected, among other tasks.

According to what CLARIN was told by Marcelo Beccaceci, expert from the International Union for the Preservation of Nature—the main conservationist organization in the world, headquartered in Switzerland and with branch offices in more than 50 countries—it is estimated that while 83 percent of the dam project has been completed, only 12 percent of the environmental protection projects have been carried out. But that is not all: So far, Argentina has not fulfilled the requirement of having proven reserves for the reinstatement of animals that live in the areas that will be flooded in four stages as of July.

Moreover, architect Cesar Menem, deputy chief of the Supplementary Works Department of the Yacyreta Binacional Agency [EBY], who is responsible for the environmental area of the Argentine side of the dam, has admitted that the $80 million granted by the World Bank and the IDB [Inter-American Development Bank] for ecological projects and for people's resettlement has not yet yielded any concrete results. "But we are working, and we will meet all demands in due time," he said optimistically.

Beccaceci was categorical: "It was officially stated in 1989 that 50 percent of the dam had been finished, and that there was nothing known about the existence of any study of its impact on wildlife. Today 90 percent of the project is finished, and the environmental situation is

exactly the same, on the Argentine side at least." In the area of fauna, his specialty, he recalled the several working meetings held on the matter, during which several proposals were submitted but never carried out.

As evidence he cited what was done in the Paraguayan town of Ayolas in December 1988. At that time it was recommended that negotiations with government officials from Misiones and Corrientes begin there, in order to establish three or four reservations. Four and a half years later, as admitted by Cesar Menem himself, "negotiations are still being carried out."

Another similar working meeting was held a month ago, with the peculiarity that the Argentine mission was practically nonexistent. However, it was sufficient to verify that the environmental laboratory on the Argentine side, equipped with the most modern equipment, is closed, and that together with Menem only two people are working—which gives an idea, according to the expert, of how difficult it is for Argentina to meet the environmental plans.

It is not the same on the Paraguayan side, where thanks to World Bank credits there already exists a reserve of 30,000 hectares in Yabebyry. Argentina, however, has only the "Rincon Santa Maria" to offer: a cattle grazing field with no value whatsoever for fauna. This field has 10,320 hectares, out of which only 2,500 will remain from the area that will be flooded.

Meanwhile, negotiations for the establishment of a reserve on Apipe Grande Island (Corrientes) and another in Campo San Juan (Misiones) are interminable, with the aggravation that if these negotiations are successful it could be "dedicated" only in 1996, when the flooding of the dam area would have already been concluded.

Argentine officials argue that operations to rescue animals will be carried out, to then take them to other areas.

However, Beccaceci said, "to carry out that task a year of studies is necessary to establish elemental things, such as the capacity to receive animals of the ecosystems where these animals will be taken."

In the different forums organized by EBY, Beccaceci and other national and international experts proposed using the Ibera provincial reserve (separated from the Yacyreta zone only by route 12), to transfer there the animals that live in areas that will be flooded. This proposal, perfectly feasible from the ecological and zoological point of view, and which will also revitalize this reserve which has long been disregarded, does not seem to be economically attractive. For some who are more careful, "it is better to deal with the land close to the dam." Today that zone, with very little real estate value, is estimated at $150 per hectare, and its value could increase should it be chosen as a reserve.

But the truth is that for the Argentines the set of Yacyreta environmental problems seems to be a nobody's land. As it was put by Mirna Alexandre, World Bank representative in Argentina, until the end of February "Yacyreta is a white elephant." However, it does not seem to be in danger of extinction.

Bolivia

Paz Zamora Not To Sign Extradition Treaty With U.S.

PY1304143493 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 5 Apr 93 p 1

[Text] President Paz Zamora has confirmed that he will not sign a new extradition treaty with the United States during the last months of his term in office, despite the pressure and moves by the U.S. Embassy in Bolivia.

Without speaking, but with a significant gesture with his finger, Paz Zamora indicated that no treaty will be signed. U.S. Embassy officials have engaged in arduous negotiations with Bolivian officials seeking an agreement.

Bolivian Foreign Ministry sources recently reported that the new extradition treaty is still being drafted. It will replace a similar but outdated agreement signed by the two countries in 1900.

Vice President Luis Ossio told PRESENCIA that the new document "will be analyzed during the next congressional session."

Ossio said: "It is up to Congress to make the final decision on the scope of the new extradition treaty that will include crimes involving drug trafficking, terrorism, and hijackings."

Paz Zamora has just concluded his visit to Switzerland and Germany, the last in his capacity as president of the Republic. While there, he managed to convince these countries to pardon a significant part of the Bolivian debt with foreign banks and governments. Paz Zamora will leave power on 6 August.

Foreign Ministry on Agreements with Brazil, Chile

PY1204210893 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1831 GMT 11 Apr 93

[Text] La Paz, 11 Apr (EFE)—Through a communique published in the media today, the Bolivian Foreign Ministry disqualified a comment made by Integration Under Secretary Bernardo Inch, who on 10 April said he prefers to sell gas to Chile rather than Brazil.

"The opinion expressed by Mr. Inch about the energy issue ... is exclusively personal," the Foreign Ministry communique states.

The newspaper PRESENCIA quotes "Foreign Ministry officials" as saying that "the statements made by the integration under secretary "are precipitated and unfounded." [quotation marks as received]

On 17 February, the presidents of Brazil, Itamar Franco, and Bolivia, Jaime Paz Zamora, signed a bilateral sale and purchase deal for gas that will go into effect in 1996.

On 6 April, the foreign ministers of Bolivia, Ronald MacLean, and Chile, Enrique Silva Cimma, signed an economic agreement that included, among other things, the possibility of signing a gas sale and purchase deal in the future.

The agreement signed between Bolivia and Brazil confronts the difficulty of financing the construction of a gas pipeline worth $2 billion linking the two countries.

In the face of this situation, the Bolivian integration undersecretary said on 10 April that "the energy integration agreement with Chile would be much less complicated, more concrete, and easier to enforce."

Bolivian Bilateral Affairs Under Secretary Armando Loayza today said Bolivian gas reserves are committed in principle to Brazil.

He added that the possibility of signing a deal with Chile is conditioned to explorations to verify whether there are enough reserves available after complying with the gas deal with Brazil.

Armed Forces Support Agreement With Chile

PY1304190993 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 8 Apr 93 p 7

[Text] The Bolivian Armed Forces have expressed their position on the signing of the trade agreement with Chile. They believe it does not entail a resumption of diplomatic relations and that it will benefit Bolivian exports.

Defense Minister Alberto Saenz Klinsky, and Oscar Vargas Lorenzetti, the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, have stated that the military respects the government's decision to sign trade agreements with neighboring countries as they help to improve the local economy.

Saenz said: "Bolivia has signed various trade agreements with neighboring countries, but the recent accord reached with Chile caused a minor controversy on the maritime issue. We, the Armed Forces, consider this is a strictly bilateral accord."

He stated: "We must normalize Bolivian foreign trade and we consider Chile just another country with which we have reached trade agreements. This accord will bring economic benefits to Bolivia and has nothing to do with the diplomatic relations."

On 6 April Bolivia and Chile signed a complementary economic accord to exempt from taxes various Bolivian products and will pave the way for the sale of natural gas to this country.

Vargas Lorenzetti told journalists that Chile and Bolivia signed a strictly trade accord which "has nothing to do with diplomatic relations."

He added: "The maritime issue has been clearly defined. The Bolivian Government and the institutions are aware that a solid strategy must be outlined to try to overcome this problem as soon as possible."

He said that the Armed Forces should directly participate in negotiations on the maritime issue. He added that the military will always oppose the resumption of diplomatic relations with Chile without first negotiating an outlet to the sea.

Vargas Lorenzetti stated: "The Armed Forces have permanently observed the maritime problem. We regard our direct participation in any negotiation aimed at solving Bolivia's landlocked situation as very important."

Prosecutor Criticizes Drug Enforcement Effectiveness

PY1304190293 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 7 Apr 93 p A2

[Text] Antinarcotics Prosecutor Rogelio Duran yesterday criticized the governmental and judicial bodies involved in our country's drug enforcement.

During a news conference, Duran criticized the effectiveness of the Special Antinarcotics Force [FELCN], the integrity of the antinarcotics judges, and security in our country's penitentiaries. He recalled the problems faced by antinarcotics prosecutors.

The prosecutor also criticized the "repentance" decree and requested the revision of Law No. 1008 on controlled substances.

Duran explained that he had voiced these remarks as a protest over the risk prosecutors are running in their task and over the Attorney General's Office's disorganization in determining changes in this field.

Given the Attorney General's Office's obvious inability to prove the guilt of drug traffickers, who must be released for lack of evidence after their detention, the prosecutor said: "The FELCN has notably improved its effectiveness in large operations to seize large quantities of drugs, but it is not efficient in obtaining evidence."

According to Duran, the FELCN must dedicate its best efforts to collecting evidence rather than confiscating drugs.

The antinarcotics prosecutor also regretted the attitude of controlled-substances judges who, in some cases, are "protectors of the indicted," for which reason they refuse to hear important cases.

In the judicial field, Duran stressed that antinarcotics prosecutors lack the required support to properly carry out their task.

Duran complained: "At the antinarcotics courts, prosecutors often had to work at the duty officer's desk or at the snack bar across the street. We prosecutors lack security, Christmas bonuses, social security, and grades based on years of service."

Duran also reported that the Bolivian Attorney General's Office unsoundly reshuffled antinarcotics judges from one region to the next and criticized the way in which new prosecutors have been appointed.

Duran proposed revising Law No. 1008 on controlled substances in such a way that major drug traffickers would receive severe sentences and minor drug traffickers would receive less severe sentences.

Duran said: "The repentance decree was an excellent measure, but its text was very poorly drawn up and its results, as can be seen, are also very poor."

Joint Communique on Drugs, Trade Signed With Ecuador

PY1304231293 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 8 Apr 93 p 7

[Text] Ecuadoran Foreign Minister Diego Paredes and his Bolivian counterpart Ronald MacLean yesterday reaffirmed the decision to continue the drug enforcement program, considering drugs "a threat to people's health and well-being."

The Ecuadoran minister arrived in La Paz to sign a joint communique with his Bolivian counterpart, after having participated in the the two-day Rio Group meeting.

During a simple ceremony held at the Bolivian Foreign Ministry, the two foreign ministers ratified their commitment to carry on the appropriate actions provided for in the agreements signed in November 1990.

The joint communique also establishes the need to continue strengthening and expanding the existing ties within the framework of horizontal technical cooperation projects and programs agreed upon between the two countries. The two foreign ministers also established a program of exchange in experiences concerning the processes of state modernization, privatization, and structural adjustments in which the private sector participates.

The foreign ministers announced that as of today an air agreement will be in effect between the state airlines Lloyd Bolivian Airlines and Ecuadoran Airlines.

These airlines will soon begin flights from Quito to Santa Cruz de la Sierra and La Paz, and from these cities to Guayaquil and Mexico.

MacLean termed these agreements a new stage in diplomatic and trade relations between the two countries, the objective of which is the modernization of the state. He also stressed the congruence of the macroeconomic policies implemented by the two countries.

Paredes also stressed the progress achieved in the country after a decade of democracy, and said that Bolivia must be an example for other Latin American countries.

Concerning his country, the Ecuadoran foreign minister said that it had adopted a "courageous" stance in attempting to face social problems and to pull itself out of the group of countries considered underdeveloped.

Cocaine Bartered for Luxury Cars on Paraguayan Border

PY1304192193 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1707 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] La Paz, 13 Apr (EFE)—Bolivian drug enforcement sources today reported that the Paraguayan border has become a market place to barter drugs for luxury cars.

Colonel Jairo Sanabria of the Bolivian Special Antinarcotics Force (FELCN), has said there are plans to conduct coordinated investigations with Paraguayan authorities to stop this trade.

According to reports received and confirmed by the authorities, Bolivian cocaine is bartered for luxury cars in Santa Cruz de la Sierra Department on the Paraguayan border.

Candidate Sanchez de Lozada Details Government Program

PY1404033393 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 5 Apr 93 p 4

[Text] During the presentation of his government program, Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada, presidential candidate for the MNR [Nationalist Revolutionary Movement] and the MRTKL [Tupac Katari Revolutionary Movement of Liberation], yesterday said that if he is elected president, Bolivia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will increase by 11 percent. This means that Bolivia would achieve a higher economic growth rate than that achieved by Chile, the country with the highest economic growth in Latin America. In 1992, Chile's economic growth totalled 10 percent.

This objective will be achieved by allowing foreign investors to invest up to $2 billion in the most important state companies, and private investors to invest no less than $3 billion in other economic areas.

He added: "An effective tax collection system, accompanied by a renewed economic thrust and the implementation of an austerity program to cut excess spending, which is characteristic of Bolivian governments, will allow us to generate additional resources for programmed costs and investments in the public sector."

He also said that by 1997 the annual per capita income, which currently stands at $873, would be increased to $1,110. This means that per capita income would increase by 27 percent after inflation.

Sanchez de Lozada added that if he is elected president he will implement a government program entitled "A Program For All" which plans to put an end to the fiscal deficit by the end of his administration. He said: "No fiscal deficit by 1997."

However, his promises to combat inflation were rather timid, as he said that the inflation rate will be the same as last year's—that is, 10 percent.

He said: "This does not of course mean that all of Bolivia's problems will be resolved, but in the next four years our nation will be firmly headed on the path of socioeconomic development. We will hand over a country that is respected; a country that is confident of the work of its citizens, who have their means and resources."

Sanchez de Lozada promised that 287,000 new jobs would be created for the unemployed, and that in addition the income level of 212,000 workers would be improved. He also said he would double the current education budget, which stands at $1.4 billion. Regarding health, he said that a total of 770 million [currency not specified] would be invested, which means that the current budget will be increased by two and one half times over a four-year period. Moreover, he proposes increasing by six times the current rural budget, that is, to a level of $3.026 billion. The rural budget will be divided as follows: education (893); health (476), sewage (245); housing (229), transportation (427), and irrigation, technology and others (807). [all figures as published]

The MNR-MRTKL proposal calls for the large state-owned companies (YPFB [Bolivian Government Oil Deposits]; ENTEL [National Telecommunications Enterprise]; ENDE [National Electricity Enterprise]; LAB [Lloyds Bolivian Airline]; and ENFE [National Railway Enterprise]) to increase their capital by allowing private capital to invest $2 billion.

According to MNR-MRTKL, public companies are currently worth $2 billion. This means that foreign capital will double the current value of these companies. Sanchez de Lozada added, however, that "Bolivians will be assured of an effective and majority participation in the profits of these companies by making them the owners of these companies." That is to say, Bolivians will own 51 percent of these companies. He explained that "Bolivian stocks will be managed by a nonprofit Social Development Foundation [Fundacion de Desarrollo Solidario] whose board will be composed of people with a solid moral background elected by the Chamber of Deputies." The foundation would allocate the profits generated by these stocks to finance social development projects submitted by the community.

In addition to increasing investments in public companies, they hope to obtain private investments for no less than $3 billion over the four-year government term.

Sanchez de Lozada stated: "The fixed rules of the game—firmness in neutralizing pressures; streamlining of taxes; decrease in interest rates; streamlining of energy and transportation rates; promotion of exports; freedom to move capital; capacity and honesty in public administration—will be the basic elements in encouraging national and foreign investment."

Government Joins World Intellectual Property Organization

PY1304223793 La Paz LA RAZON in Spanish 7 Apr 93 p B2

[Text] Acting Exports Minister Roberto Camacho reported that the government yesterday joined the World Intellectual Property Organization [WIPO], which will allow the country to defend its rights over artistic and industrial creations.

He said the WIPO is the most specialized UN organization that seeks to promote intellectual property throughout the world.

In 1992 this organization had 129 members, and Bolivia was one of the few countries that "did not belong to it," the only one from the Andean Group and Latin America. Camacho said the presentation to join was made by Exports Minister Fernando Campero in WIPO headquarters in Switzerland. [passage omitted]

Brazil

Sao Paulo Governor Denies Planning To Run for President

PY1304170093 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Sao Paulo Governor Luiz Antonio Fleury Filho has denied that he plans to run as a presidential candidate for the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party. He said that the one spreading the rumor is the one who wants to become a candidate. He pointed out that many candidates are already campaigning, including some who oppose President Itamar Franco's administration.

Fleury believes this is not the best moment to discuss the issue because before 1994 begins, 1993 must end.

Progressive Party Not To Participate in Presidential Race

PY1404133493 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1030 GMT 14 Apr 93

[Text] The Progressive Party [Partido Progressista], PP, will not participate in the presidential succession race. This announcement was made by PP President Alvaro Dias.

According to Dias, rushing the succession process at this moment represents a threat to the country. The PP will

discuss this issue whenever it deems it necessary, without attacking President Itamar Franco.

President Orders Lawsuit Against Journalist

PY1304000093 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] The government will file a lawsuit against FOLHA DE SAO PAULO journalist (Luiz Nassif), who published articles criticizing the criteria used for privatization of the CSN, the National Iron and Steel Company. The journalist stated that President Itamar Franco and other government officials harmed national interests.

In an official note released late this afternoon by Presidential Press Secretary Francisco Baker, President Franco announced that in the face of the articles published by journalist (Luiz Nassif) on 1, 11 and 12 April in FOLHA DE SAO PAULO, he has taken the following steps: He summoned Franco Montoro Filho—the chairman of the privatization commission—to Brasilia and ordered Justice Minister Mauricio Correa to take civil and criminal action against the journalist.

We will now talk with Franciso Baker:

[Begin recording] [Luiz Augusto Mendonca] Mr. Baker, the president considers these articles slanderous, right?

[Baker] The three articles insinuate that the privatization of the CSN was a major plot that harmed the national interest. The journalist says he believes this plot involved the attorney general. He also mentioned several other names. [end recording]

President Franco is now assessing the national privatization program with the finance, planning, and justice ministers, with the ministers of the presidential household, and with Franco Montoro Filho.

* Civilian Space Agency Proposed; VS-40 Launch

93SM0218A Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 3-5 Apr 93 p 9

[Article by Mariluce Moura: "Itamar in Alcantara Proposes Establishment of Civilian Agency for Space Program"]

[Text] Alcantara—President Itamar Franco announced on Friday, shortly after attending the successful launching of the VS-40 rocket at the base in Alcantara, Maranhao, that he would submit an urgent bill to the National Congress for establishing the Brazilian Space Agency. Itamar Franco added that he had instructed the ministers of aeronautics and of science and technology and the president of the Brazilian Commission for Space Activities (Cobae) to complete studies for that purpose as quickly as possible.

The agency will be a civilian agency responsible directly to the president of the republic. And according to the official note regarding his decision, which he made it a point to read at the airport serving the Alcantara Launch Center before departing for Teresina, Itamar Franco hopes that establishment of the agency will lead to a "greater coordination of effort among the industrial, scientific, and academic communities" in connection with the Brazilian space program.

The president did not provide any information, however, about the source of the funds needed for establishing the agency or continuing the All-Brazilian Space Mission (MECB), which will require about $50 million this year in order to complete the Satellite Launch Vehicle (VLS)—the VS-40 rocket is the forerunner of the VLS—and finish construction of the Alcantara Launch Center (CLA) facilities that are essential for the scheduled launching of the VLS in 1995.

"We have no budget revenues, but the president, stirred by the success of the "Santa Maria" operation, which he has just attended, is determined to find solutions that will enable us to stick to the timetable," said General Lelio Viana Lobo, minister of aeronautics.

In his note concerning the space agency, the president himself showed enthusiasm, saying that "Brazilian space activities are reaching a new stage of development thanks to the successful launching of the VS-40, which is the forerunner of the VLS; the operation in orbit of the SCD-1 satellite, which was produced entirely in Brazil; and our country's increasing presence in the international arena of space exploration."

Slight Differences

The launching of the VS-40 could be observed from the terrace of the CLA Technology Center 7,000 meters away. The picture of the rising rocket could be seen for only three seconds, after which it was covered by heavy clouds.

The minister of aeronautics said that with some slight differences, the VS-40 performed within the parameters established in its design and in simulations. For instance, its expected apogee, or highest altitude, was 1,396 km, and it reached an actual altitude of 987 km. The fuel burn time in both stages was as expected—that is, two minutes 32 seconds.

Flight time was 1,138 seconds, or just over 18 minutes, compared to the planned time of 24 minutes. And the VS-40 fell into the sea off the coast of Rio Grande do Norte about 2,500 km from its launch point—in other words, it traveled farther than the 2,080 km originally planned.

Angles and Winds

The minister of aeronautics explained that those minor differences were "certainly due to problems with launch angles and winds, which affect the flight of a ballistic device being guided from the launch base."

Air Force Colonel Carlos Augusto Cavalcanti, commanding officer of the CLA, who with the VS-40 was completing his 97th launch operation, said that the differences which are observed in a preliminary rocket and which therefore serve to guide the construction of the VLS are essential in a piece of equipment that is being tested.

The cost of the "Santa Maria" operation and the expenditures specific to the VS-40 were not revealed. They are included in the overall figures for the VLS, which has cost about $230 million so far.

The minister of aeronautics announced that the Alcantara Launch Center had completed about 60 percent of the project. The launching of the VLS is now awaiting only "a greater refinement of all its systems and the completion of a few activities."

Once that is complete, it will be used to launch not only the VLS but also other low-orbiting sounding rockets for NASA and probably Russian rockets as well. Talks are already under way with the Lockheed firm of the United States and with the Russian firm Krunichev Enterprise. In addition, there are agreements at a more advanced stage with NASA for using Alcantara as the launch base for 32 sounding rockets (including 20 meteorological rockets) between October and December of this year.

But looking farther into the future, plans also call for using the base as the launch site for high-orbiting rockets, according to the minister of aeronautics.

Planning Minister's Growing Isolation Viewed

PY1304162293 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 11 Apr 93 Section 1 p 6

[Article by Sonia Mossri]

[Text] Planalto Palace is not happy with Planning Minister Yeda Crusius who also has failed to adjust to Finance Minister Eliseu Resende's team. Without initiative and little decision-making power, Yeda is being consulted less about economic issues—even about issues related to the budget or privatization process which fall directly under the Planning Ministry's jurisdiction.

Eliseu's economic advisers simply ignore Yeda's team. So far the Planning Ministry has only managed to upset the Finance Ministry. Yeda favors converting the foreign debt at its face value, without discount of the secondary market, to finance environmental, social, and cultural projects. The Finance Ministry did not like that proposal because it would imply printing more money which, in turn, would nourish inflation.

Eliseu's advisers also cannot forgive Minister Crusius for reaching an agreement with Labor Minister Walter Barelli over granting public servants a 25-percent increase—the government ended up granting a 33-percent increase.

Although she has an office on the fourth floor of Planalto Palace, Yeda hardly ever participates in meetings to discuss national issues with Minister Henrique Hargreaves, the chief of the civil household. Currently Minister Eliseu and Industry and Commerce Minister Jose Eduardo Veira participate in these meetings.

Last week, Yeda had another problem with the civil household. She and Budget and Finances Secretary Paulo Fontenelle insisted that President Itamar Franco could not approve a 33-percent adjustment for public servants until the 1993 budget was approved.

Planalto Palace did not like her attitude and the increase was published in the Official Gazette on 5 April. Congress and the Presidency of the Republic continue to pressure Yeda to replace Paulo Fontenelle. Yeda refuses to do so although her budget and finance secretary does not even get along with the Finance Ministry.

Yeda is no longer consulted on important decisions related to the sale of public enterprises, even though the privatization program is still officially under the jurisdiction of the BNDES (National Bank for Social and Economic Development), which is linked to the Planning Ministry. In the privatization field, Yeda lets Eliseu Resende influence Planalto Palace.

Moreover, her opinion regarding Itamar's social programs is practically never taken into account. Currently, the greatest influence on decisions regarding social programs, for which the budget does not allocate enough resources, come from Denise Paiva, the president's special adviser, and from sociologist Herbert de Sousa, aka Betinho.

Industrialists Support End to State Monopolies

PY1204152093 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Apr 93 Economy and Business Section p 1

[Report by Milton F. Da Rocha Filho]

[Text] A nationwide opinion poll conducted by the National Confederation of Industries [CNI] reveals that 71 percent of industrialists polled oppose state monopolies established in the Constitution. They are mainly concerned with the tax system: 95.5 percent of businessmen support amendment of the current law, and 56.6 percent advocate adoption of a traditional model primarily based on a value added tax (merging the Industrialized Produts Tax, IPI, the Goods and Services Movement Tax, ICMS, the Tax on Professional Services, ISS, and the Fuel Sales Tax, IVVC), and a tax on rural and urban property.

The current monopolies allowed by the Constitution include oil and nuclear ore exploitation, telecommunications and piped gas distribution. In sum, businessmen want the state's economic and social role changed by eliminating monopolies; reducing restrictions on foreign capital; and changing regulations, especially on labor

issues, through negotiations. Federations, labor unions, associations, and enterprises participated in the survey designed for industrialists to note priorities on reviewing the Constitution. A total of 90 organizations replied to the survey's 36 questions.

Regarding the financial system, industrialists want to modify the constitutional limit of 12 percent of annual tax rate; 43.3 percent want to eliminate the tax rate limit; 47.7 percent think the retirement age should be higher than 50; 63.3 percent support the amendements concerning foreign investments (26 percent think the difference between local and foreign capital should be eliminated); and 51.1 percent reject the employment guarantee, but support the establishment of the protection system only through compensatory indemnification.

'Mismanagement' Costs Government '$60 Billion' Yearly

PY1204221593 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Apr 93 p 4

[Article by Vannildo Mendes]

[Text] Brasilia—Mismanagement is the reason why the Brazilian Government squanders some $60 billion (15 percent of the gross domestic product) every year. Corruption, embezzlement, uncollected revenues, the granting of illegal subsidies, and administrative negligence are among the factors that make up this loss. This tentative estimate has been prepared by experts form the National Accounting Office (TCU), who are auditing 1992 government expenditure. Losses, which account for the astronomical figure of 1.2 quadrillion cruzeiros, are eight times greater than what the government expects to collect from the Provisional Tax on Financial Operations (IPMF), otherwise known as the tax on checks.

Even though the TCU has not yet finished auditing the financial statements for 1992 (the figures for the last two quarters still remain to be rechecked), it is already known that requests for the TCU to investigate administrative irregularities increased by an average of 20 percent during the first two quarters. In view of the wave of scandals that came out as a result of the investigations conducted by the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] into the PC [Paulo Cesar Farias] affair, it is estimated that the figures for the last two quarters of 1992 will be even more staggering. During the first two quarters, 3,027 special inspections, audits, and balances were made following allegations of irregularities. The TCU detected 1,100 cases (250 more than in 1991) of irregularities where it was not possible to prove if there was willful intent; 99 cases of proven irregularities; and more than 300 culprits were made to pay either fines or compensation which totaled 1 trillion cruzeiros.

Some 30 percent of all goods and services produced in Brazil—from nails and screws to aircraft and oil rigs—are channeled into the state apparatus (at federal, state, and municipal levels). The problem lies in the fact that the huge spending machine makes a tremendous blunder whenever it has to buy something. It disregards its status as a large buyer (which would enable it to get special discounts), and it purchases items unsystematically as the need arises, without having a common consultative mechanism to supply its myriads of agencies. The state displays a total lack of discernment when buying and pays a fortune to intermediaries. This is compounded by the fact that it does not always make good use of what it buys. A recent survey by UNICEF revealed that only 30 percent of the funds appropriated for education are productive or beneficial to Brazilian education. Federal Administration Secretary Luiza Erundina states that "the Brazilian State is a bad buyer and the worst of payers." She believes there is a cause-effect relationship between the two factors.

Backed by her experience in administering the third largest budget in the country—that of the city of Sao Paulo—Erundina is drafting a bill which she will submit to President Itamar Franco. It seeks to regulate government purchases and provides radical measures to stamp out federal administration's vices, beginning with the monopoly held by suppliers of goods and services. Erundina is seeking to implement the same strategy she used in Sao Paulo: The first step consists in a deep thrust into the public sector through the establishment of trustworthy methods of payment—in cash if possible. She thus hopes to reduce sources of corruption by 50 percent. The second step is to make all purchase deals completely legitimate and boost competition so as to eliminate monopolies and privileges and lower the cost of Government purchases and contracts.

Erundina assures that these measures will work wonders for government accounts. She said: "How else could I have paid off the overdue debt of $700 million that I inherited from my predecessors?" TCU chairman Carlos Atilia agrees with Erundina on this. He says: "Miracles can be achieved with a modicum of effort." Atilia believes that Brazilian laws are very progressive and have the necessary tools to prevent fraud. As an example he mentioned the corrective measures implemented, on the recommendation of the TCU, in Petrobras [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] and the Student Aid Foundation (FAE) [Fundacao de Assistencia ao Estudante], two important sources of corruption during the previous administrations.

Influenced by the PP [Pedro Paulo Leoni Ramos, the former strategic affairs secretary dismissed by Collor on corruption charges in April 1992] and PC schemes, in January 1992 Petrobras was about to sign a contract that included a surcharge of $80 million on the price of an oil rig in the Campos oil field. The operation was canceled just in time by former Infrastructure Minister Joao Santana, on the recommendation of the TCU. During 1990 and 1991, the FAE accumulated losses amounting to $50 million for the purchase of school lunches, which the FAE was buying from a cartel of three suppliers at a surcharge. The TCU detected irregularities in the public bid last year and adopted corrective measures. Since then, expenses incurred for the purchase of processed food (such as instant soup and milk-based beverages) has

dropped by $24.8 million (nearly 500 billion cruzeiros), a cut of 50 percent compared with 1991.

Flight Controllers Stage One-Week Warning Strike

PY1204231293 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] The strike by flight controllers did not affect the operation of airports throughout the country. This information was released by the Aeronautics Ministry and the strike command that was created by the National Union of Flight Protection Workers.

The union said the strike is a warning and will last one week. The union expects the Federal Administration Secretariat to propose a salary equity plan on 19 April, leveling union members' salaries with those earned by military men who, according to the union, earn an average of 16 million cruzeiros, which is 100 percent higher than the salary earned by civil employees.

State-Owned Mining Company To Open Shanghai Office

PY1304165193 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Apr 93 Money and World Section p 1

[Article by Edna Dantas]

[Excerpt] The CVRD [Rio Doce Valey Company] last year showed a profit of $72.4 million from its "business with the PRC." The results of the company's exports to the PRC have been so good that the state-owned company's executive board decided to open an office this month in Shanghai, one of the PRC's major cities.

From 1985, when the company began regular exports to the PRC, to 1992, the volume of exports almost tripled. It went from 1.1 million metric tons to 3.2 million. The exports include iron ore and pellets (a concentrated mineral). The PRC currently buys 17 percent of its total volume of iron ore from CVRD, one of the world's major mining companies. The remaining iron ore is exported from Australia and India, the CVRD's main competitors for the Chinese market.

The CVRD has tried to enter the PRC since 1970. The Philippines and Japan, CVRD's current top client, have acted as mediators on two occasions. Early in the 1980's, CVRD tried to form a "joint venture" with PRC companies, but an Australian company that carried out the initiative frustrated CVRD's project. [passage omitted]

Interest in Chinese Markets Grows

PY1304195293 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Apr 93 Money and World Section p 1

[Article by Cristina Zahar]

[Text] Brazilian exporters have started to discover that China is a good market for business. Enterprises such as Vale do Rio Doce, Kodak of Brazil, and Rhodia are increasing their sales to the largest consumer market in the world. With a population of 1.1 billion inhabitants, China bought from 169 different Brazilian enterprises in 1992.

The exported volume of goods is still small. Last year Brazilian exporters managed to sell goods worth $460.6 million to China. This represents 1.28 percent of the total $36 billion exported by Brazil last year. This information was disclosed by the Foreign Trade Secretariat.

Distance and the fact that Brazil and China compete in some products are the main obstacles to more fluid trade between these two countries. Deputy Pratini de Moraes (PPR-RS) [Progressive Renewal Party-Rio Grande do Sul], 52, who is also president of the Association of Brazilian Exporters (AEB), said that "trade with China has not been all that significant." In his opinion, the main problem is the lack of promotion of Brazilian goods at fairs and events abroad.

Pratini de Moraes stated, however, that exports to China will increase this year. "The Chinese market grows 9 to 10 percent per year. We can increase our exports if we make an effort to promote Brazil abroad." Pratini de Moraes believes Brazil will export $40 billion in 1993.

Among the enterprises that believe in the Chinese market is Vale do Rio Doce, the largest Brazilian exporter, with record sales to China worth $72.4 million—free on board value (that is, the price of the product not including freight and insurance). The public enterprise is so optimistic that it is planning to open a branch in China.

Rhodia, 15th on the list of exporters to China, shipped fibers and polymer worth $8.5 million last year. This figure represents 7 percent of Rhodia's exports, which in 1992 amounted to $120 million.

Guy Harari, 32, manager of Rhodia's fiber department, asserted that the Chinese market is a seasonal market. Harari commented: "When it is summer here and consumption drops then it is a good moment to enter the Chinese market. They purchase large quantities of raw material for the textile industry." Acrylic fiber, used to make pullovers and blankets, was the product exported most to China in 1992.

Kodak is another huge enterprise interested in the opening promoted by Deng Xiaoping during the last two years. Last year Kodak of Brazil's exports grew 37 percent compared with 1991. Its sales to China amounted to $1.5 million in 1992 compared to $1.2 million in 1991. Gilberto Galan, 48, vice president for foreign affairs, believes sales will increase at least 10 percent.

Currently Kodak only sells China X-ray film for medical use. Galan commented: "We intend to export films and cameras, probably within this year." According to him, the greatest problem is the Brazilian port fees that greatly increase the price of the shipped products.

Galan stated that the Brazilian factory was selected to supply the Chinese market due to its ability to increase production in a short time.

Chile

Radical Party Supports Frei Presidential Candidacy

PY1404013193 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Excerpt] The National Council of the Radical Party today officially proclaimed Senator Eduardo Frei of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] as its presidential candidate, after approving the programmatic parliamentary and governability agreement reached with the PDC.

In a ceremony at the Galeria Hotel, Senator Frei was welcomed with the applause of the delegates of the Radical Party National Council, and with an embrace from Radical leader Senator Anselmo Sule, the Radical Party presidential candidate who declined his presidency today. He was also welcome by Radical Party President Senator Carlos Gonzalez Marquez, who said:

[Begin recording] Senator Frei, the Radical Party gives you its full and decisive support in your candidacy for president. Under the direction of Senator Sule we will be working tirelesly with our PDC friends and with other friends in the Coalition of Parties for Democracy, to prolong the successful government of President Aylwin, and to give the people of Chile a new president from the coalition in order to successfully conclude the democratization process started by the coalition. Please receive the support of the Radical Party, and receive also our full conviction that you will be the next president of Chile. [end recording]

Senator Eduardo Frei gave thanks for the support with great emotion. He recalled the long relationship between the PDC and the Radical Party, since the foundation of the National Falange. [passage omitted]

National Renewal Rejects Changing Electoral System

PY1304132993 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Excerpt] The national political scene continues to be turbulent. The right-wing is about to break up due to a statement by the UDI [Democratic Independent Union] in support of reforming the current electoral system. National Renewal leaders have said that this would mean the end of the commitment between the two parties to face this issue jointly.

The refusal by the National Renewal to endorse the Center-Center Union in the upcoming congressional elections ended the reluctance of the UDI to reform the electoral system. For the first time in the debate on this issue in political circles, the UDI yesterday expressed its willingness to reform it.

[Begin UDI Deputy Pablo Longueira recording] I have no doubt that the UDI leadership is fully aware that the electoral system must be studied. We have always been willing to study the electoral system. [end recording]

UDI presidential candidate Jovino Novoa supports Longueira's position.

[Begin Novoa recording] We have always said that the electoral system is not a dogma, that it is a mechanism. We are willing to study it, this is what we said. The decision of the two parties to study any proposal was established in the agreement with National Renewal. [end recording]

The UDI statement was again rejected by the National Renewal, whose president, Andres Allamand, considers the UDI's change of attitude incomprehensible.

[Begin Allamand recording] Longueira's comments break one of the essential bases of the political understanding between the UDI and National Renewal. The two parties and leaderships signed a solemn agreement to support the binominal system by which neither party is free to change the system unilaterally. Pablo Longueira is breaking a formal and solemn commitment by the two parties. Without doubt, this situation jeopardizes future political relations. [end recording]

The two main right-wing parties are now evaluating the current controversial situation. [passage omitted]

Colombia

Medellin Cartel Attorneys Issue Communique

PA1404032793 Santa Fe de Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Apr 93 p 14-A

[Communique issued by the Medellin Cartel defense attorneys on 6 April in Medellin]

[Text] The defense attorneys of the persons currently imprisoned at the Itagui maximum security jail, state that:

1. We profoundly regret the tragic deaths of our colleagues Juan David Castano Gonzalez and Maria Victoria Munoz Roque, who were murdered on 5 April in the city of Santa Fe de Bogota. We hereby express our condolences to their relatives and friends.
2. We are opposed to the imposition in this case of any solution through other than legal means.
3. As professionals of the law, we will only fulfill actions that adhere to legal and constitutional mandates.
4. Once again we ask the national government to guarantee our right to life and the free exercise of our profession.
5. We trust that just as public violence is pursued and punished, equal conduct will be observed toward institutional violence, which is unjustifiable from any point of view.

6. We only want to contribute our legal endeavors to the achievement of peace, which is so necessary to our country.

Prosecutor Issues New Arrest Warrant for Escobar

PA1404132593 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] A new arrest warrant was issued against Pablo Escobar. Terrorism, association with criminal intent, and homicide are among the crimes added to the list on 13 April. The Prosecutor General's Office is expediting the sentence reduction process for the men who have already surrendered to justice. One of the drug traffickers who surrendered testified on 13 April. Marcela Duran gave this report:

[Begin recording] [Duran] Juan David Rossi Ramirez, the second man of the Tomatoes Clan who surrendered to justice, testified moments ago. He took advantage of the sentence reduction plan and will be sentenced in less than a month. The drug trafficker confessed to having shipped nine tons of drugs to the United States.

[Unidentified lawyer] This is perhaps one of the investigations that has advanced the most. The prosecutor general, through the mechanism that was established a year ago, has shown the defense team how justice can indeed work in Colombia.

[Duran] Juan Diego Arcila, alias Tomate, also took advantage of the sentence reduction plan. He confessed to conspiracy to ship drugs, forgery, and illegal possession of weapons. He will give his last testimony in eight days.

Meanwhile, Pablo Escobar's men decided to negotiate. Deputy Prosecutor General Francisco Jose Sintura visited the Itagui prison to begin the process on 13 April. The Ochoa brothers' hearing was postponed for the third time. According to their lawyers, it could be held in late July.

The Prosecutor General's Office on 13 April issued an order to seize the assets of the four Medellin Cartel men who were captured by the Search Unit and charged with having planted two car bombs at Santa Fe de Bogota's international center. [end recording]

DAS Announces Arrest of FARC 15th Front Chief

PA1404032393 Santa Fe de Bogota EL NUEVO SIGLO in Spanish 6 Apr 93 p 14a

[Text] The Administrative Department of Security on 5 April reported the arrest of the chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] 15th Front in Paujil Municipality, Caqueta Department.

The secret organization identified the subversive as Leoncio Quiroga Hernandez, also known as "Lionzo." The government had offered a 20 million peso reward to anyone supplying information leading to his capture.

Quiroga Hernandez was captured in El Porvenir, Paujil jurisdiction, and was accused of participating in several actions against members of the public force.

The authorities also seized a revolver, subversive propaganda, field equipment, 12 pages of Bolivarian Militias statutes, pictures of Quiroga Hernandez with members of that FARC column, and a bulletin entitled "12 Proposals To Build a Peace Strategy."

Quiroga Hernandez was indicted for occupying a checkpoint in Rionegro, where the guerrillas stole the payroll of the Guapi Heroes Battalion headquartered in Paujil jurisdiction.

He was also indicted for participating in an attack on a National Police patrol in La Nina on the Union-Pelaya Highway, where two policemen died and a patrol car was set on fire. He also headed an attack against National Army Captain German Rodriguez Richi, who sustained permanent injuries.

The subversive chief was placed at the disposal of a regional prosecutor. He will be transferred in the next few hours to a higher security cell at a penitentiary in Santa Fe de Bogota due to security reasons.

Ecuador

Social Welfare Minister Mariana Argudo Resigns

PA1404010493 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] A government spokesman said that President Sixto Duran-Ballen accepted the resignation of Social Welfare Minister Mariana Argudo on 13 April. The official announcement will be made by President Duran-Ballen in the next few hours. In the meantime, consultations for a replacement are under way, Presidency Secretary Santiago Aguilar stated.

In a telephone interview Aguilar said that the new minister may possibly be Deputy Abraham Romero of the ruling Republican Unity Party. The same source said he did not know the reason for Argudo's resignation, whose work has come under scrutiny over the past weeks. The opposition has called for a political trial at the Congress, which has not yet taken place.

Paraguay

President on Postponement of Meeting With Menem

PY1304195893 Asuncion Cerro Cora Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 1610 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] President Andres Rodriguez explained to the media this morning the reason for postponing his meeting with Argentine President Carlos Menem.

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] The meeting we had planned with my dear friend Carlos Menem, the president of the sister Republic of Argentina, has been postponed for the simple reason that the commissions studying our problem have not reached any concrete solution. As soon as a satisfactory agreement is reached between the two governments, however, we will hold a meeting to sign the agreement.

[Unidentified reporter] Do you specifically mean the case of the Pilcomayo River?

[Rodriguez] Specifically, the case of the Pilcomayo River on which the two border commissions previously had agreed to open certain water canals on an experimental basis. This experiment yielded much more water to the sister Republic of Argentina so, therefore, we intend to solve this problem with the experiment by closing these canals on the two borders; that is, on the Argentine and Paraguayan borders. We then want to bring technical commissions—I think that some Russian experts are being hired—to adopt the most adequate measure for the two countries. The use of the Pilcomayo River must be really positive for the regional economic development of the two countries, which is what we really want.

[Reporter] Therefore, there is a principle of friction that can cool your relations with your colleague Menem and perhaps directly affect the Mercosur [Common Market of the South]?

[Rodriguez] No, no, not at all, because we both agreed this meeting should not take place if there was no clear agreement to sign then. We jointly reached this decision. [end recording]

President Rodriguez also answered a question about the return of Stroessnerist supporters to the political arena.

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] I consider the Colorado Party a large and powerful party, and I believe its leaders probably want to further strengthen their ranks now that we are close to the elections. Therefore, I think it is a justified measure they adopted in an attempt to reinforce the party ranks since we are on the verge of national elections. I also think it is fair to stop looking behind, to stop living in the past, and to look to the future of our country. We must stop the country from living tied to its past and we must always look to the future. I think the country will greatly benefit from this. We must try to prepare a better future for the people.

[Unidentified reporter] This means you have changed your position, general, right?

[Rodriguez] No, not really, because we are in 1993. You must remember, I said 1993. I did not say January, February, or December. Now that we are 28 days from the general elections, I think, with justified reason, that the Colorado Party, through its leaders, can solve its past problems and reach an agreement given that they now will perhaps respect the democratic rules that are prevailing in our country. Given our laws, we cannot prevent men from having the same rights as the rest because this is foreseen in our Constitution.

[Reporter] Finally, Mr. President, how do you view your party's chances in these elections?

[Rodriguez] I think all the political parties are strengthening their ranks, and with this purpose the Colorado Party, which we all know perfectly well is a powerful political force, and with the measures adopted by its leaders to strengthen their ranks, I think the party can win the elections. [end recording]

Wasmosy Meets Brazilian Foreign Minister, Discusses Itaipu

PY1304223593 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Apr 93 p 16

[Article by "special correspondents" Ignacio Martinez Dominguez and Eduardo Franco]

[Text] Brasilia—During a meeting with Brazilian Foreign Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Colorado Party presidential candidate Juan Carlos Wasmosy raised several issues, including the Itaipu Treaty. Senator Augusto Saldivar (one of the Itaipu Treaty signers), Conrado Pappalardo, and Carlos Podesta and Julio Cesar Vasconsellos, who are both Colorado Party members and Itaipu Council members, also attended the meeting that lasted for one and a half hours.

Cardoso reiterated that his country has always kept an open mind about the Itaipu hydroelectric dam issue. He underscored the fact that "Brazilians will never refuse to discuss something, and indeed have never refused to do so, provided that it merits consideration and is done in good faith. In other words, if something crops up, we are ready to discuss it."

Upon being asked whether Brazil was as interested as Paraguay in renegotiating the Itaipu Treaty, Cardoso stated that neither public opinion nor anybody puts pressure on the government to deal with this issue, as is the case in Paraguay.

Cardoso said: "I notice that the pressure is greater in Paraguay than in Brazil. Here, not even the appropriate ministries have advanced any suggestions or put us under pressure to deal with this issue. I believe the Itaipu Treaty is a momentous agreement reached by common consent."

He added that in order to renegotiate the treaty, the Paraguayan Government must request it. He said: "We are not proposing anything, therefore, as long as there is no formal request by the Paraguayan Government, there is really nothing."

Cardoso further stated that relations between Brazil and Paraguay will not be affected by the change of administration in the latter. "We will have very friendly relations with whoever becomes the Paraguayan head of state. It is

not a question of administrations but of peoples, and our peoples have learned to hold each other in esteem," he emphasized.

Cardoso commented that Wasmosy talked with him about the Mercosur [Common Market of the South]. To this effect, the Brazilian foreign minister said his country is totally committed to going ahead with Mercosur because it has faith in integration.

He stressed that "where there is a will there is a way. Countries must make the effort to settle their differences. Markets will not adjust automatically all by themselves. One must make decisions that help markets function in a brisk manner."

Wasmosy stated that he discussed with Cardoso the criteria and political will to modify the Itaipu Treaty annexes. He said: "We talked about the possibility of renegotiating the surplus of electricity and they were pleased to hear that. It is a matter of our government making a concrete proposal because they are willing to negotiate."

Wasmosy indicated that in light of that answer all that is needed is that our government propose changes in some annexes in order to get the Itaipu dam's electricity surplus, and that they will be pleased to see that "because we talked about it for almost one and one half hours, looking at the advantages for each country."

Wasmosy added that if he becomes president he will immediately make that proposal. He told reporters: "You can rest assured I will do that."

He said he was concentrating his interest on the use of the dam's electricity surplus. He also pointed out that this issue must be studied not only from the technical but also from the juridical point of view because the conditions for the two countries' electricity needs can change.

Asked if he continues to maintain the same position on the Itaipu Treaty or if there are some changes, he said: "I have not changed my position. I have been very pragmatic on this issue. I agree on changing the annexes referring to the electricity surplus."

Wasmosy added that the change will favor the two countries. He said: "If they do not use that electricity, why can't we sell it to third countries? It would be good if we could use all that electricity for our country. That would be the main objective of any president."

He concluded by saying that the Brazilian foreign minister explained to him the installation of a Paraguayan-Brazilian commission to study the possibility of building another bridge over the Parana River south of the Friendship Bridge.

Colorado Party Releases Electoral Platform

PY1404022893 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 3 Apr 93 p 8

[Quotation marks as published]

[Text] The government program of the National Republican Association [ANR—Colorado Party] proposes the professionalization of the Armed Forces. The program, however, does not mention the introduction of partisan politics into the military institution, an issue that is central in the programs of the other parties.

Even though the party executive board has not yet approved the specific parts of the electoral platform of presidential candidate Juan Carlos Wasmosy, the document has already been approved as a whole. The platform has proposals for the areas of defense, public security, social action, economy, farm and forestry, industry and commerce, foreign policy, health, and tourism.

The program's basic guidelines state that "we express our resolute will to govern the country with full respect for the Constitution, the law, and the institutions."

It adds that "our program of government will give the Armed Forces the institutional nature that is required in modern society, in this process that is essentially a transition from an authoritarian to a democratic system of government."

The document states that "an understanding of the current concepts of independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity will lead us to a new concept of the strategic role of defense, which we will promote in a determined manner with military commanders." The document proposes a revision of military regulations, "along with an institutional structure adjusted to the Constitution, revitalizing the role of the Armed Forces."

"Fair Salaries"

"We will promote the consolidation of the military career, within the framework of professionalism and permanent training of the Armed Forces' members," the document states. It adds that "along with the professionalization of cadres, fair salaries and appropriate retirement allowances will be paid, in keeping with their dignity as servants of society."

Concerning foreign relations and foreign policy, the Colorado Party program emphasizes that "an essential objective of the government will be to transform Paraguay into a major factor in the region to implement its international policy."

The document states: "The Colorado Party administration will design its foreign policy on the basis of the principles of international law, which were adopted and consecrated by the Constitution of 1992. We will strongly emphasize the international preservation of

human rights, condemning all types of dictatorship, because such rights are important for consolidating democracy in our country."

Concerning relations with neighboring countries and with Southern Cone countries, the document states that "we want to have the best relations with our closest neighbors. There are real, tangible links among our nations, which are reflected in our culture and in our economic and social relations. It is imperative to make integration go from theory to practice. The free circulation of goods and factors in the economy should become a major objective."

Concerning Latin American integration, the document states that Mercosur [Common Market of the South] reflects "an expression of the willingness of member countries to cooperate through political, social, and cultural ties to find common answers to the challenges posed by the international economic order. In addition, "efforts will be made to improve the traditionally good relations with the United States, attaching priority to diversification of exports, the exchange of technology, and scientific, cultural, and economic cooperation for the consolidation of democracy."

In the area of labor, the program of government takes its inspiration in "the principles of Colorado Party humanism," and provides for "implementation of an active, updated labor policy, in line with the current dynamics of social change and economic transformations around the world."

In this regard, the program states that "our labor policy is consistent with the essential principle of private initiative and of the promotion of private enterprises, with the intervention of the state in the decisions to produce, invest, or distribute, performing a specific role in the quest for social justice and well-being."

The ANR offers to its voters;

—to commit itself to implementing all the labor institutions established by the Constitution, as a guarantee for workers and entrepreneurs that the law will promote fair, clean, and realistic relations, and conditions for productive development and social harmony.

—to promote a comprehensive reform of the social security system, including the reorganization and restructuring of the Social Security Institute.

—to promote the workers' right to join either public or private health services.

—to promote an efficient system of payment of retirement allowances and pensions, through a legal instrument for promoting the creation of private enterprises to work in this area, under the supervision of the state.

In the health area, the program maintains that efforts will be made to create, through the state, stable conditions in which the Paraguayan people may reach standards of health and well-being which are in keeping with the high aspirations of mankind and of our society.

To this end, the Wasmosy-Seifart ticket proposes the following actions:

—implementation of a national multi-sector health system to give comprehensive coverage to people's needs.

—implementation of actions to reduce the inequalities that prevent people from reaching decent standards of living.

—improvement and development of the structure and operation of health services, providing them with all means and technological devices that can be purchased with the funds provided by society and by the state.

—implementation of a comprehensive and efficient personnel training and development policy.

Pro-Stroessner Faction Members To Support Colorado Party Campaign

PY1304212793 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 13 Apr 93 p 4

[Text] Stroessner-supporting faction members yesterday met vice presidential candidate Angel Roberto Seifart and said they will support and join the Colorado Party's official electoral campaign. Eugenio J. Jacquet (labor and justice minister under former dictator Alfredo Stroessner), Anibal Fernandez (information under secretary under Stroessner), and Luis Martinez Miltos (Supreme Court president and Chamber of Deputies president during the dictatorship) participated in the lunch held by Roberto Velazquez Escobar (deputy during Stroessner's days in office). All the speeches delivered during the lunch concluded that "we must forget the past and now must work for the Colorado Party without any further questions."

The coordinator of the Colorado Party's official campaign has admitted that the campaign had questioned Argana's candidacy because he allegedly was receiving the Stroessnerists' support and added that "in a national electoral campaign the situation is different because what counts are the votes." He continued: "Who didn't support Stroessner when he was president? Even Caballero Vargas himself did so."

Asked whether the presence of people such as Eugenio Jacquet in the Colorado Party electoral campaign would affect the image of the party's official candidates, he said: "He is a Colorado Party member and all Colorado Party members have the right to work for and support their party." He said: "There is nothing wrong in that."

In his speech, Bacon Duarte Prado (senator under Stroessner) said: "We must rescue the positive aspects of the

past without charging anyone with this or that deed because, to a certain extent, we are all responsible for what has occurred to our party and for the critical situation in which the party now is in, with all doors closed to it. We are experiencing an extremely serious situation. The friends who are gathered here firmly oppose and are absolutely and radically against the surprising indications of voting for Laino or Caballero Vargas."

Roberto Velazquez Escobar said a call has been made to all Colorado Party members in an effort to unite forces in support of the party's presidential candidate. Velazquez, who was one of the greatest allies of presidential hopeful Luis Maria Argana during the party primaries, said: "We are not leaving any movement. We are behaving like Colorado Party members. We are doing it for these elections, and afterward we will try to unite all the forces of the Colorado Party."

But Angel Roberto Seifart was pessimistic about the possibility of an electoral victory when he admitted: "Let us be sincere; we cannot be optimistic under the current circumstances, but if we are able to wisely use all the potential of our party's human resources we can assert from this moment that on 9 May the Colorado Party will win and the party will continue in the government."

Peru

Top MRTA Leader Reportedly Still in Country, Not Germany

PY1404131093 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p 14

[Text] Tarapoto—One of the top leaders of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement [MRTA], Lucero Cumpa Miranda, alias "Comrade Luci," reportedly is hiding in an unspecified place in Alto Mayo, San Martin, and not in Germany as reported. This has been revealed by a member of the MRTA Political Command of the North- Eastern Front who was captured a few days ago in Moyobamba.

The seditious individual, whose identity is being kept secret by the Army, although he is said "to not have any problem in giving his name," added that MRTA's current No. 1, Cerpa Cartollini, alias "Comrade Pablo," is also in the jungle area of Middle Mayo.

"I am cooperating, giving secret information because MRTA cannot survive any longer," he told the local press upon being introduced by the Frente Huallaga Political Military Command with 16 repentant MRTA members who surrendered to Army troops.

"Cumpa," as the subversive informer calls her, on learning that the media published reports on her presence in Germany, openly laughed, arguing that "it is better that way because she could easily move from one place to another in San Martin while everyone was looking for her in that country."

"Only two days after the news was published, 'Cumpa' traveled with me to Tarapoto. From there she made two calls to Lima. I did not know with whom nor about what she talked because I only accompanied her as a personal guard," he said.

"No one recognized her, not even the police, because she has changed her looks very much. She no longer looks like her published pictures. Now she wears short and thick black hair. She is absolutely unrecognizable."

The captured MRTA member also reported that only top MRTA members knew about "Cumpa's" presence in San Martin because many members of the organization have decided to surrender under the repentance law and might have revealed much about her whereabouts.

According to the informer's revelations, "Cumpa" and Cerpa Cartollini planned the attack on the town of Moyobamba on 5 January, and they were close to being captured by the Army during the bombing of an important MRTA base in Yanayacu.

"On that occasion, they were only a few seconds from being captured because they were the first to escape from the place."

"However, 'Commander Grillo,' commander of the area, was seriously wounded and is near death."

"The Yanayacu case was the hardest blow to MRTA. There were many casualties."

He added that the report on the presence of Central American guerrillas within MRTA is true. "They train the militia (the subversive cadres), preparing them for all purposes," he said without giving further details.

The MRTA receives large amounts of money "in dollars from drug traffickers with whom it maintains full and open relations. There is much appetite for power and this has destroyed the movement," he said.

"There are only four members of the National MRTA Command who take all the money from drug trafficking, without worrying about the needs of the militia. The combatants cannot send any type of aid to their families, and most of them come from very poor homes."

Within the next few days, somewhere in an unspecified place in the jungle, the National MRTA Command will meet to "make important decisions."

They will discuss the problem of the policy to attract followers because hundreds of subversives have surrendered to the Army or simply buried their weapons and fled from the country through the border, looking for a different future.

"The most important thing to be decided is whether MRTA will put aside its relations with drug trafficking. But in any case, I am certain MRTA will end this year," the informer categorically said.

Constitutional Committee Ratifies Presidential Power

PY1404014193 Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p A3

[Text] The Constitutional Committee of the Democratic Constituent Congress yesterday agreed to ratify the president of the Republic's right to dissolve Congress' prior agreement with the Council of Ministers if there was no possibility of harmonious complementation between the executive and legislative powers. A subcommittee was created to clearly establish the reasons for the dissolution and to work on a conciliatory agreement. The subcommittee will also establish the mechanisms and limitations of the presidential power.

The subcommittee is made up of the following congressmen: Carlos Torres y Torres Lara, president of the Constitutional Committee; Enrique Chirinos Soto of the Renewal Movement; Victor Joy Way of New Majority-Change 90; and Henry Pease Garcia of the leftist coalition.

The agreement was reached in the morning session, but Fernando Olivera Vega of the FIM [Independent Front for Moralization] asked for a reconsideration during the afternoon session. The voting was again a tie, as had happened in the morning session, even though Cesar Fernandez Arce voted in favor of the project of the majority. Again the vote cast by Torres y Torres Lara decided for the agreement.

The presidential power to dissolve Congress is contained in Article 28 of the constitutional draft law of Chapter VII on the relationship between the legislative and executive powers.

The bill also establishes that the president will only be able to use the right to dissolve Congress once during his mandate, and under no circumstances during the last year of his administration.

The committee also approved Article 24 of the same chapter related to the appearance of the president of the Council of Ministers before Congress within 30 days after being installed. If Congress is not in session, the president calls for a special meeting.

The next article that was also approved refers to the questioning of the president of the Council of Ministers, or any cabinet minister, by Congress. The request must be made by 15 percent of the legal number of congressmen, but its approval requires one third of the congressmen.

The Constitutional Committee also discarded the proposal to renew one third of the legislative branch. The articles approved include the proposals of the majority as well as those of the opposition.

CCD Approves Rules on Administration of Justice

PY1404160293 Lima EL PERUANO in Spanish 31 Mar 93 p A3

[Excerpts] Cases of embezzlement or robbery against the state, malfeasance in office involving public officials, and crimes violating fundamental rights guaranteed in the Constitution will be addressed in public trials from now on.

This is established in Section 4 of Article 2, Chapter I, Title I, on public prosecutions that was approved on 30 March by the Democratic Constituent Congress, CCD, during the debate on the new text of the constitutional rules pertaining to the Judicial Branch. [passage omitted]

The CCD approved a series of rules on the administration of justice, including one that states that any case will be reviewed by a superior court.

The CCD also approved other articles. One of them states that the principle of the power to administer justice stems from the people and is exercised by the judicial branch. [passage omitted]

The unity and exclusiveness of this function as a court principle also was established. The first section of Article 2 states: "No independent court will be established except for the military one and one established by arbitration."

It also was decided that no authority can claim competence in any case being heard by a competent court.

Law on Releasing Information on 'Any' Citizen Approved

PA1404152093 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] The law of habeas data has been included as a constitutional guarantee in the new Constitution. Habeas data is the state's right to release information to any citizen who requests it. The concept is new in Peru and was taken from the Brazilian and Colombian constitutions.

Thus far the commission chaired by Carlos Torres y Torres Lara has approved three clauses referent to constitutional guarantees. It has been unanimously confirmed that the law of habeas corpus is to be used in response to actions or omissions by any authority, government employee, or individual who violates or threatens individual freedoms or related constitutional rights. This first clause is an annex to the current constitutional text.

The second clause states that injunctions are properly used against actions or omissions by any authority, government employee, or individual who violates or threatens other rights recognized in the constitution. They are not intended for use against legal regulations or judicial resolutions resulting from ordinary proceedings. This paragraph is an addition.

The third clause deals with habeas data, which is intended for use against any actions or omissions by authorities, government employees, or individuals who violate or threaten the right to information, demands for corrections, or the suppression of personal information referred to in the current constitution. This clause is new in the country; it was taken from the Brazilian and Colombian constitutions.

The Constitution Commission expects to debate three more clauses referent to the laws of unconstitutionality, popular action, appeal for reversal, and fulfillment on the evening of 13 April.

Struggle Within APRA Increasing in North, Central Regions

PY1404030993 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p A4

[Text] The inner struggle within the APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] is reportedly increasing in the central and northern part of the country.

The new factions of the party are reportedly divided into three positions: One wants the removal of the entire party leadership through a national congress; another wants Alan Garcia kept as general secretary, in accordance with the policy "of not playing the game of the government of Alberto Fujimori"; and lastly there is the faction advocating a profound self-criticism of the ideological and moral behavior of the party leadership and militancy, as a kind of general exorcism "that should produce neither heroes nor villains but honest, clean leaders and militants."

The faction that is reportedly growing stronger, beyond the purely moralizing desires and "removal of guilt," is the one demanding an urgent change in leadership, in ideologists, and in executives at the national level.

Former Economy Minister Luis Alva Castro is reportedly very actively seeking the support of the rank-and-file in the central and northern regions, while Hector Vargas Haya is opening up his way through the party's upheavals of the last few weeks.

Program Aims To Replace Coca With Silk Production

PY1404032193 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p A3

[Text] The National Compensation and Social Development Fund (Foncodes) will implement an incentive project for the cultivation of mulberries for raising silkworms, allowing farmers to replace coca crops in the regions of Tocache, Huanuco, and Tingo Maria.

Foncodes will appropriate 50 million soles for implementing projects aimed at indirectly replacing coca in those regions. The pilot program, demanding an investment of 1 million soles, will be developed on 30 hectares in Uchiza.

Foncodes Executive Director Arturo Woodman Pollit reported that the Upper Huallaga Development Corporation will act as trustee. He added that the silkworm lives in the mulberry tree to produce the silk, which has a high price on the international market.

He said that one hectare of mulberries produces 600 kg of silk at a price of $16 per kilogram. He added: "This means that a peasant cultivating one hectare of mulberries can produce $9,600."

Woodman indicated that raising silkworms could become a choice to replace coca, and that the Upper Huallaga region has ideal conditions for this project.

Auditors Investigate Accounting Documents of Coca Enterprise

PY1404142993 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p A7

[Text] Enaco [National Coca Enterprise] has no accounting records for major portions of its 1990 industrial production. Conjectures have been made since an incomplete report on the balance of the production through 31 December 1990 has been presented.

Auditors' investigations into all the accounting documents revealed that 5.733 million coca leaf infusion filters, 354 kg of 92-percent-pure cocaine, 2.841 million aromatic mixture filters, and 411,000 decocainized [descocainizada] coca leaf filters were not registered. The 1990 Operation Plan helped find these figures.

Enaco reported that the accounting records of all production processes have been omitted because the enterprise has no cost accounting.

It also has been established that the Accounting Department neither controls nor registers the enterprise's financial and economic operations due to its organization, lack of trained personnel, and because it operates without the basic legal documents that could govern its operation. It conducts only an overall ineffective check.

The enterprise also lacks the Sales Record and the Goods and Services Purchase Record.

Problems also were detected in goods that were not included in the inventory; in stolen, spoiled, or donated goods; in nonexistent goods registered as enterprise property; and in goods registered without brand or model description or the serial number to locate the product.

Editorial Advocates Proper Evaluation of Judges

PY1404034993 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 30 Mar 93 p A22

[Editorial: "A Matter of Honor"]

[Text] A crucial question is whether the judicial branch has improved after its reorganization. The opinion of

Dr. Cesar Fernandez Arce, chairman of the Congressional Justice Committee and leader of the majority bloc, is clear. He said that things have worsened, from higher to lower level judges.

On 30 April 1992, when reorganization began, a total of 11,589 complaints and charges had been submitted to the Internal Control Office of the judicial branch. In 1992 alone, 5,727 charges were reported, while 2,740 were submitted in January and February 1993. Figures speak for themselves, but we do not know what they say. Perhaps they say that credibility in the Internal Control Office has increased remarkably, or more probably that corruption has spread even further.

The immediate cause of this situation could be the manner in which the vacancies were filled after the dismissal of judges. In fact, the reorganization decree created a commission for evaluating the judges of superior and higher courts. The commission was authorized to confirm or dismiss the judges, but it was not authorized to designate new judges to fill the vacancies.

The confirmed members of the respective superior court designated the new judges to fill the vacancies. If no superior court member passed the evaluation, the higher court judges who were confirmed were supposed to fill the vacancies in the superior courts and to designate other judges.

In fact, this type of extreme situation occurred in more than one district. Yet the mechanism permitted—instead of avoiding it—the designation of unskilled judges and court members.

The status of these court members and judges, which will be studied and legalized by an Honor Jury, will depend—beyond discrepancies over the procedure for designating the members of the Jury and over its powers—on the ability to avoid making the same mistake.

Designations should not be put in the hands of people who might be tempted to engage in corruption. Court members and judges of a district cannot designate court members and judges of the same district, no matter how fair this might seem. It is an easier procedure, but it is not what the Honor Jury is expected to do.

When there are no mechanisms, because they have been destroyed by corruption, it is preferable to have confidence in the direct knowledge and accurate intuition of the members of the jury, whose criteria are endorsed by the people's confidence.

In the final analysis, we do not have confidence in the members of the jury simply because they passed an exam, but because we have the evidence of their actions throughout their lives. If this criterion was used for electing them, why couldn't they use it for electing others?

Uruguay

Armed Forces Voice Concern About U.S. 'Hegemony'

PY1304172393 Montevideo LA MANANA in Spanish 6 Apr 93 p 7

[Text] Armed Forces commanders currently are engaged in the study of the reform of the Armed Forces Organizational Law and their command structure. Concurrently with this, they are analyzing several specialized papers, including one in which General Augusto Pinochet presents a detailed analysis of this issue. As a result of this, the commanders reached two conclusions—one that advocates "unity among South American armies" and another one that specifically proposes "streamlining and updating the Armed Forces to adapt them to modern times."

Notwithstanding the secrecy with which these issues usually are dealt with, it was leaked that there is certain uneasiness about the absolute political hegemony exerted by the United States worldwide. Gen. Pinochet raises this point in his study. He elaborates on the disappearance of the Soviet Union from the family of nations, which—he notes with concern—has resulted in "the spawning of a single superpower with expansionist and interventionist leanings, something that is detrimental to domestic rule."

The aforementioned document—which is public property now, although its contents have not yet been publicized in their entirety—states that the Chilean Armed Forces General Staff is of the opinion that "our countries' Armed Forces are adversely affected by this politico-military process."

Military advisers to the Defense Ministry and the Armed Forces' top echelons are analyzing Gen. Pinochet's document, but have not come up with a conclusion yet due to the fact that some military branches have not yet made their opinion known.

There is considerable concern in military circles that Gen. Pinochet's ideas are "gaining ground." Gen. Pinochet believes, according to the aforementioned sources, that "this new political, economic, and military superpower does not guarantee that traditional cultural values will be maintained. This is far more dangerous and difficult for our countries to confront than the revolutionary activities of armed groups, which were crushed by the Armed Forces in 1973."

In the document he submitted to his counterparts in the hemisphere, Gen. Pinochet further contends that he "has not noticed that democratic systems of government based on elections implement any actions geared to strengthening national armies." He sounds a note of warning about "the new socialism that has been spawned as the political expression of this unified world power." And without mentioning it, he attacks the new U.S. administration's policy.

Gen. Pinochet adds that this is the reason why he hopes "South American states, which have a common history and heritage, will unite to provide the necessary counterweight to this single world power."

Basing his arguments on experience gained from past events, Gen. Pinochet endorsed the Armed Forces' intervention in domestic affairs, stating that "a military action that has victory as its target uses methods that will necessarily and naturally exceed the legal framework." He justifies this action by saying that "they will be fighting legitimately in defense of their homeland."

According to the aforementioned sources, this document is currently being studied by the three branches of the Armed Forces and their general staffs, which then will draft a report to be submitted to the executive branch at the appropriate time.

The military reportedly is discussing a project to "professionalize and streamline" the Armed Forces, which would entail the geographic reapportionment of combat troops.

This project, which also is under consideration by the executive branch, would give rise to two resolutions: a political one, a bill on the Armed Forces Organizational Law, and a regulatory one, which would be subject to "the decision of President Luis Alberto Lacalle, the Armed Forces commander in chief," who will study the "streamlining and restructuring of the Armed Forces' three branches." Conclusions must be submitted for their approval by 1 June.

Lacalle will appoint a new national defense under secretary on 13 April. It is known that there are four candidates for the vacant post.

The appointment of the new government official will coincide with the arrival of Defense Minister Mariano Brito, who currently is making a state visit to the PRC.

Russian Minister Arrives on 'Unexpected' Visit

PY1304183593 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1545 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Montevideo, 13 Apr (EFE)—Foreign Ministry spokesmen told EFE that the Russian foreign economic relations minister, Sergey Glazyev, arrived today in Montevideo on an unexpected visit.

According to what the INTERFAX agency reported in Moscow last week, Minister Glazyev planned to begin a one-week official visit to Brazil today that might be extended to Paraguay and Uruguay.

The spokesmen reported: "The Russian minister's arrival in Montevideo surprised even Uruguayan Foreign Ministry officials."

Russian diplomats told EFE: "We are not aware of the reasons for the change in itinerary."

Glazyev today will meet Uruguayan Economy and Finance Minister Ignacio de Posadas and will attend a working lunch with Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Maria Gamio.

The Russian minister may offer to sell Russian military technology and advanced weapons technology to Uruguay and, in exchange, import Uruguayan beef, leather, and wool.

Glazyev's visit to Uruguay will end tomorrow, when he will probably leave for Paraguay.

Joint Communique on Trade Cooperation With PRC Released

PY1304161893 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 7 Apr 93 p 7

[Text] Uruguay and the PRC issued a joint communique at the end of the meetings held by Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre, Foreign Minister Sergio Abreu, and Defense Minister Mariano Brito with Beijing government officials. The text contains the results of the meetings in which a trade increase was agreed upon. The communique says:

Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre, Foreign Minister Sergio Abreu, and Defense Minister Mariano Brito made an official visit to the PRC, where they were welcomed by high-ranking PRC Government officials.

Aguirre was the first foreign government official to meet with the new PRC administration that was elected at the end of the Eighth National People's Congress last week.

Newly elected Vice President Rong Yiren granted Aguirre and his entourage the warmest reception and emphasized the excellent bilateral relations between the PRC and Uruguay.

After protocol ceremonies at the Great Palace of the People, Aguirre attended a high-level working meeting in which he expressed gratitude for the warm reception and conveyed a congratulatory message sent by President Lacalle to the newly elected authorities.

Aguirre and his Chinese counterpart described Chinese-Uruguayan relations as very satisfactory. Aguirre also expressed the Uruguayan Government's wish to strengthen bilateral relations in all fields.

Although diplomatic relations were established a short time ago, the two vice presidents agreed that they already are very solid and they will be strengthened in the economic, trade, political, technological, and cultural fields on the basis of a common accord and the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

Various international issues were discussed during the meetings, including close bilateral cooperation in many international forums. Uruguay has always supported PRC's rejoining GATT as a contracting party. During a recent meeting of the PRC working team on GATT in

Geneva in March 1992, Uruguay reaffirmed its permanent political support for the PRC rejoining this international economic organization.

As for bilateral relations, Aguirre voiced his satisfaction with the fruitful and noticeable political relations that have developed on a pragmatic basis.

Concerning economic and trade relations, the two vice presidents agreed on the significance of the agreements that were signed. They will help strengthen trade exchange even more and promote its diversification.

Aguirre expressed the Uruguayan Government's great hope for these documents, which are more significant than the previous agreements. These documents primarily seek to consolidate, strengthen, and diversify bilateral trade.

During this official visit, Uruguay and the PRC tightened their technical and scientific cooperation. The two parties agreed on the procedures to be followed for an approach of the Uruguayan and PRC scientific and technological communities.

The Uruguayan foreign minister signed the following documents: a memorandum of trade understanding, technical and scientific cooperation agreements, notes designed to obtain a line of credit from the PRC Government for technical cooperation, and an accord on accounting procedures between the Central Bank and the PRC Bank to implement the accord.

Abreu met with PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, who visited Uruguay in March, and who also was appointed vice minister.

The two ministers held a cordial and friendly meeting. They exchanged opinions on the two countries' bilateral and foreign policies. Abreu noted the mutual understanding on the importance of PRC-Uruguayan economic and trade relations.

Abreu pointed out the significance of the memorandum of trade understanding signed with the Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation Ministry, MOFTEC, as an important instrument to improve and diversify important bilateral trade.

Through this memorandum of understanding, the PRC will make feasible the import of a large volume of Uruguayan products, which currently are the main basis of bilateral exchange.

In 1992 bilateral trade totalled $100 million, and Uruguayan exports amounted to $91 million. This high-level visit entails a major success for future Uruguayan exports to a market that represents a fifth of the world's population.

The PRC is the major importer of Uruguayan wool tops [preceding word in English]. Since 1988, the year when diplomatic relations were restored, PRC imports have amounted to $400 million, which represented the main Uruguayan trade surplus.

The Uruguayan entourage led by Aguirre will meet on 7 April with PRC President Jiang Zemin, who is also the Communist Party of China secretary general and the Asian nation's top political leader.

After meeting Qiao Shi, chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Aguirre and his entourage will visit Shanghai, Canton, and Shenzhen, where they will contact top PRC Government officials.

Personnel Carriers Shipped to Mozambique

PY1304150193 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 0930 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] The armored personnel carriers that the Uruguay-2 Battalion will use in Mozambique were shipped yesterday. The Uruguay-2 Battalion will participate in a UN peacekeeping mission.

A specially chartered United Nations ship yesterday departed from the port of Montevideo, bound for Buenos Aires. The ship will leave for the African continent today and is scheduled to arrive in Mozambique around 3 May.

About 130 vehicles and 47 containers of military equipment for the deployment of troops and supplies for one month were loaded yesterday. After one month, the battalion will receive UN assistance through the Indian Army.

Military authorities said the loading of the vehicles was implemented in three stages to prevent the column of vehicles from jamming the traffic.

First, 38 jeeps were sent. Later, in the second column, were 30 personnel carriers, 10 tankers, 4 recovery trucks, and a repair truck. A total of 25 powerful Condor armored personnel carriers brought up the rear.

The 24 members of the Uruguay-2 Battalion, including Battalion Commander Lieutenant Colonel Jorge Puentes, left on a regular airline flight on 10 April.

As the vehicles the Uruguayan soldiers will use in Mozambique were being loaded, a report datelined Cambodia was received. It states that Gabriel Lopez Estegnar, a Uruguay Battalion corporal 2d class, has reportedly died of meningitis. A report released yesterday by the Army General Command states that the corporal contracted the disease locally. Uruguayan authorities are making arrangements to quickly transport his remains to Uruguay.

Venezuela

Army Reportedly Captures 21 Colombian Guerrillas

PA1404022793 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2238 GMT 13 Apr 93

[Text] Caracas, 13 Apr (EFE)—Defense Minister General Ivan Jimenez reported on 13 April that a Venezuelan Army unit captured 21 Colombian guerrillas, headed by "Commander Wilson," south of Maracaibo Lake.

Jimenez did not reveal the true identity of "Commander Wilson" or the name of the guerrilla group. He said, however, that there are several Venezuelans among the captured.

The minister added that the guerrillas were turned over to the Directorate of Intelligence and Prevention Services and the Judicial Technical Police, who will initiate an investigation.

Jimenez also reported that the men attacked and blackmailed cattlemen and farmers in the area, which is located approximately 750 km west of Caracas near the border with Colombia.

Several days ago, Zulia Department authorities denied the presence of guerrillas in the area and said the robberies and kidnappings in the region were being perpetrated by common criminals.

AD Requests Investigation Into Source of Copei Funds

PA1304154393 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 2350 GMT 12 Apr 93

[Text] The National Executive Commission [CEN] of the Democratic Action [AD] Party has asked the National Congress to investigate the origin of the money used by the Social Christian Party, Copei, in its internal campaign to select its candidate for the coming elections. AD Subsecretary Luis Emilio Rondon made that announcement upon leaving the CEN meeting. He said the AD faction in the legislature has been instructed to begin investigations immediately.

[Begin Rondon recording] It has really been an offense against the voters and the people to have showy campaigns when nobody knows the origin of the money handled by the candidates. We have instructed our legislative wing to conduct investigations from Congress to determine the origin of those funds. It is hoped the investigations will aid in setting the trend for the next internal electoral campaign. The campaign should be conducted in a lofty, sober, and austere manner as the country, political parties, and their leaders demand. [end recording]

Copei Secretary General Jose Curiel denied reports that 1 billion bolivares had been spent on the internal campaign. He said the electoral situation is typical with lots of organization and a rational amount of spending.

In the meantime, the assembly of materials for the elections will be complete by 16 April. Electoral Commission President Felipe Montilla made that announcement before the party's national commission. Montilla noted that some 8,500 voting tables will be set up nationwide. On 15 April the electoral commission will meet with the heads of the commands and the various candidates of each state to know who the representatives at the various polling places will be. If the lists are not in order, the commission will announce successors in each case.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Is it possible that the candidates could have spent 1 billion bolivares in preelectoral campaign activities? If so, where could they have gotten so much money?

[Curiel] I do not think the figure is too high. In any event, each precandidate has his own way of obtaining funds. In that sense, each one has to be aware of the quota to enter the race. As a party, we can say that we are not going to exceed 30 million. [end recording]

There appears to be another source of conflict within Copei. Secretary General Rafael Alvarez announced he will be a candidate in the elections to be held again in Sucre. His party, however, supports Ramon Martinez.

* Causa R Movement, Personalities Viewed

93SM0203A Caracas EL DIARIO DE CARACAS in Spanish 9 Mar 93 p 3

[Commentary by Anibal Romero: "What Is Causa R and What Does It Seek?]

[Text] Good questions, perhaps, but very difficult to answer. The question of Causa R is currently one of the most obscure and unsolvable mysteries in Venezuelan politics, a profound enigma, an almost indecipherable riddle. The movement's leaders insist that they are not leftists, nor Marxists, nor anything of the like. Of course, neither are they rightists. So what the devil are they? And what are they seeking?

Causa R was born as a leftist political movement; that seems clear. Its creator was Alfredo Maneiro, a politically complex and interesting individual who came from the Communist Party, and did not fall into the trap of ambiguity and uncertainty in which the MAS [Movement Toward Socialism] eventually found itself. Maneiro was in certain respects a visionary. He was someone who combined—according to what I can gather from what he left written and the results of his work—an idealism almost ingenuous in its ideology, and a solid, practical political sense.

Causa R's key activity in its earliest times was to concentrate on the union struggle in the Guayana region. There, the group's leaders, people who were quite dedicated and hardworking, built a firm base from which